

AUSTRALIAN LEXICOGRAPHY 1880–1910:

AN EVALUATION

APPENDIX 6

MATERIAL FOR A DICTIONARY OF AUSTRALASIAN SLANG

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APPENDIX TO CHAPTER 3

Stephens and O'Brien Material

THE TEXT

The consolidated text of the Material that is presented in this Appendix is based on the latest of the manuscripts, described as 'C' in Chapter 3. Stephens had successively updated MS 'A' in MS 'B', and MS 'B' in MS 'C'. Excisions from A and B have been included in the consolidated text, and are marked accordingly.

The entries within the three original texts were not in strict alphabetical order. In this Appendix, S&O'B's entries have been placed in alphabetical order to make the text more accessible to readers.

Stephens and O'Brien included many references to 'Morris' and 'B&L'. These two major sources are *Austral English: A Dictionary of Australasian Words* by Edward E Morris (Morris), and *A Dictionary of Slang Jargon & Cant embracing English, American, and Anglo-Indian Slang, Pidgin English, Tinkers' Jargon and other irregular phraseology*, by Albert Barrère and Charles Leland, published in 1890 by the Ballantyne Press (B&L).

Where 'S.O'B' appears within the text, it is a note from Steve O'Brien himself. It should not be confused with S&O'B, which refers to the text prepared by Stephens and O'Brien.

PROCESS

Each word or phrase has been examined and classified as to the origin of the term. The term is compared with the *Australian National Dictionary (AND)* and the *Oxford English Dictionary (OED)* to establish if it is Australian. This process proves many terms to be either standard English or American. In some cases the term was located in Lighter's *Dictionary of American English*, verifying the U.S. origin.

S.J. Baker's publications, *A Dictionary of Australian Slang* 1941, *A Dictionary of Australian Slang* 1943, *The Australian Language* 1945 and a 1983 publication, *A Dictionary of Australian Slang* which was originally published as part of his *The Drum* 1959, were consulted to locate terms which were in neither *AND* or *OED*. The S&O'B

terms which only appeared in Baker's dictionaries were checked against Eric Partridge's *Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* 1967 and 1967 Supplement, G.A. Wilkes' *A Dictionary of Australian Colloquialisms*, and W.S. Ramson's *Australian English: An Historical Study of the Vocabulary 1788–1898* in a further attempt to clarify their origin. B. Moore's *Gold! Gold! Gold!* was used for gold mining terms, and Dixon, Ramson and Thomas's *Aboriginal Words in English* for Aboriginal and Australian pidgin terms.

The card files at the Australian National Dictionary Centre, are of four kinds:

1. citations which were rejected for the publication of *AND*.
2. citations which were considered surplus to the needs of the dictionary.
3. current files.
4. material collected by John Gunn from the University of Sydney Australian Language Research Centre. Gunn collected material, particularly shearing terms, which are focused upon early bush and shearing terms. Gunn's cards give a better coverage of these terms than the *AND* files.

If no Australian evidence of the term was found, dictionaries from other countries, including slang dictionaries, were consulted.

PRESENTATION

The text of each of Stephens and O'Brien's entries is presented within a text box in Verdana font. The original text uses / / around words to indicate that they should be bracketed or *italicised*, for example /slang/ is changed to *slang* in this Appendix. In many instances it is not clear whether italics or brackets are meant so I have used my judgment as to which is indicated. It is usual to indicate the type of slang, such as thieves, general, mining or bush, in italics but S&O'B do not always indicate this. To clarify some entries, the register label is italicised where this is not indicated by S&O'B. An example of this is shown below.

Dog in the blanket: Jam or currant roly-poley pudding.
Bush and nautical.
B&L give: dog's-body naut a kind of pease pudding.

There was no indication that the label (Bush and nautical) was intended to be italicised, but the entry is clarified by italicising the label. Some spelling and punctuation has also been corrected for clarity.

Where the earlier texts (A and B) differ from the base text the difference is noted directly after the entry within a square bracket []. Newspaper clippings, mostly from the Red Page of *The Bulletin*, are attached to pages under headwords at the end of MS A. I have transcribed them into the relevant text boxes also within square brackets.

The hand-written corrections on the original manuscripts described in Chapter 3 are indicated with a dashed underline under the section concerned. For example:

Copper: B&L say cop has the signification of catch. This is the general Australian nickname for policemen—coppers or catchers. Copper being also slang for penny, there seems to be a punning connection between it and bobby—'bob' is Australian slang for shilling.
Cop, as a variant of bird, is in common use. To say a horse is a 'dead cop' is to mean a sure winner.

[A&B leave out the reference to coinage marked above.]

Many references to 'Morris' and 'B&L' include the definition from the relevant source, but many do not. Where S&O'B have included a definition or part thereof from Morris or B&L, it is underlined. Where a definition from B&L or Morris is required and is not included by S&O'B, it has been included between bold square brackets [] in order to clarify the Stephens and O'Brien material. For example:

Absentee *convict term*: use Morris's text and quotes.

[**Morris: Absentee**, euphemistic term for a convict. The word has disappeared with the need for it.]

In some instances Stephens and O'Brien have misquoted these dictionaries. Comments on these instances are below each entry box.

Some entries are confused, with several senses and sometimes several terms being mixed within the entry. In these cases the discussion of these senses or terms includes numbering to make evaluation clearer.

Following each text box is a discussion of the term that evaluates whether the term is of Australian origin, and traces ascriptions as Australian in later dictionaries. This is shown in the example for the term **yoke up** below.

Yoke up: get married. Synonymous with American hitched, nautical spliced. From yoking up bullocks, i.e. coupling them up in pairs for draught work.

AND gives '**yoke** v. [Elsewhere constr, without *up*.] *trans.* With **up**: to put a yolk on (draught animals).' (1848).

This sense is Australian.

OED gives '**yoke up** 7a. to join link, couple, connect, associate. 1205. 7b. with reference to marriage.' (1604).

This sense is not Australian.

S&O'B's origin of the term **yoke up**, in the sense of matrimony, is incorrect. *OED*'s entry demonstrates that this sense was used well before the Australian sense of 'yoking up bullocks'.

This term is not Australian.

Many terms were taken from S&O'B by Baker and in turn copied by Partridge and Green. These entries do not prove Australian origin unless there is further evidence from more independent sources. The Baker, Partridge, and Green citations are included in bold brackets () after the findings and discussion. For example:

(The term **mad dog** is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959 but not after 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Following is a list of abbreviations used within the annotations.

ABBREVIATIONS

- A** Manuscript A of A.G. Stephens and S.E. O'Brien *Dictionary of New Zealand and Australian Slang* (unpublished).
- AND** W.S. Ramson ed. *The Australian National Dictionary*: Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1988.
- AWE** R.M.W. Dixon, W.S. Ramson & M. Thomas *Australian Aboriginal Words in English*: Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1990.
- B** Manuscript B of A.G. Stephens and S.J. O'Brien *Materials for an Austrazealand Slang Dictionary* (unpublished).
- B&L** A. Barrère and C.G. Leland *A Dictionary of Slang Jargon & Cant*: Ballantyne Press, London 1889.
- Baker 1941** S.J. Baker *A Popular Dictionary of Australian Slang*: Robertson & Mullens, Melbourne 1941.
- Baker 1943** S.J. Baker *A Popular Dictionary of Australian Slang*, third edition: Robertson & Mullens, Melbourne 1943.
- Baker 1945** S.J. Baker *The Australian Language*: Angus & Robertson, Sydney 1945.
- Baker 1959** S.J. Baker *A Dictionary of Australian Slang*: Currey O'Neill Ross Pty Ltd, Melbourne 1959 (1983 edition).
- Bartlett** J.R. Bartlett *The Dictionary of Americanisms*: Crescent Books, New York 1989. (originally published 1849)
- Concise Ulster Dictionary** C I Macaffee ed. *A Concise Ulster Dictionary*: Oxford University Press, New York 1996.
- DNZE** H.W. Orsman ed *The Dictionary of New Zealand English New Zealand words and their origins*: Oxford University Press, Auckland 1997.
- DVT** F. Grose 1811 *Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue*: Max Harris ed. Bibliophile Books, Adelaide 1966.
- EDD** J. Wright *The English Dialect Dictionary*: Oxford University Press Oxford 6 vols. 1898-1905.
- EP 1967** E. Partridge *A Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English*. 6th ed. Vol. 1: Routledge and Kegan Paul, London 1967.
- EP 1967S** E. Partridge *A Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English*. 6th ed. Vol. 2. *The Supplement*: Routledge and Kegan Paul, London 1967.
- F&H** J.S. Farmer & W.E. Henley *Slang and Its Analogues Past and Present: A Dictionary, Historical and Comparative, of the Heterodox Speech of All Classes of Society for More Than Three Hundred Years*: Printed for subscribers only, London 1890-1904.

- Green** J. Green *The Cassell Dictionary of Slang*: Cassell, London 1998
- Gunn** J. Gunn *The Terminology of the Shearing Industry*: Occasional Paper, The University of Sydney Australian Language Research Centre 1965
- Hotten** J.C. Hotten *A Dictionary of Modern Slang, Cant, and Vulgar Words*: John Camden Hotten, London 1859.
- Lighter** J.E. Lighter ed. *The Random House Dictionary of American Slang* Vol.1. A-G: Random House, New York 1994
- J.E. Lighter ed. *Random House Dictionary of American Slang* Vol.2. H-O: Random House, New York 1997.
- Matsell** G.W. Matsell *The Secret Language of Crime: Vocabulum or the Rogue's Lexicon*: The Police Gazette, New York City 1859.
- Moore** B. Moore *Gold! Gold! Gold!*: Oxford University Press, Melbourne: 2000.
- Morris** E.E. Morris *Austral English: A Dictionary of Australasian Words Phrases and Usages*: Macmillan & Co Limited, London 1898.
- OED** J.A. Simpson & A.S.C. Weiner *Oxford English Dictionary* online: <http://dictionary.oed.com>. Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Ramson** W.S. Ramson *Australian English An Historical Study of the Vocabulary 1788-1898*: Australian National University Press, Canberra 1966.
- Raven-Hart** R. Raven-Hart *Canoe in Australia*: Georgian House, Melbourne 1948.
- S&O'B** S.E. O'Brien & A.G. Stephens *Material for a Dictionary of Australian Slang 1900-1910* (unpublished).
- The Cornish Association of Bendigo and District**
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bendcorn/welcome.htm>
- Vaux** N. McLachlan ed. *The Memoirs of James Hardy Vaux Including his Vocabulary of The Flash Language (1819)*: Heinemann, London 1964.
- Wilkes 1978** G.A. Wilkes *A Dictionary of Australian Colloquialisms*: Sydney University Press, Sydney 1978.
- Wilkes.1999** G.A. *A Dictionary of Australian Colloquialisms* 4th ed.: Oxford University Press, Oxford 1999.

A

Abe: last of anything, only one.

Push and thieves—this is my abe—is to say my last or only coin, pipe of tobacco, etc.

B&L give *Abraham cove*: 'a naked or poor man a beggar in rags' (Grove).

[A:—Abe last of anything, only one.

On my abe—i.e. hard up, poor, Syn. on my uppers.

Push and thieves—this is my abe—is to say my last or only coin, pipe of tobacco, etc.

B&L give *Abraham cove*: 'a naked or poor man a beggar in rags' (Grove).

B :—Abe: *slang* last of anything, only one.

Push and thieves—this is my abe—[indecipherable; probably: it; deleted] that is to say, my last or only coin, pipe of tobacco, etc...

B&L give *Abraham cove*: 'a naked or poor man a beggar in rags' (Grose).]

On my abe—i.e. hard up, poor,
Syn. on my uppers.

This term is not in *OED*.

Grose gives **Abram**. Naked. *Cant*.

While it is clear that there is a tentative link between a person with nothing and being down to your last of a thing, there is no citation evidence of the use of **abe** in Australia or in any English dictionary.

(The term **abe** is in Baker 1941, not in 1943, 1945 or 1959.

EP 1967S takes it from Baker 1942.

It appears that Baker realised it was not an Australian term by 1943.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Absentee: a large and wealthy land or investment holder living abroad. Certain of our financiers proposed an Absentee Tax to either compel these people to remain and spend their money in the Colony or to leave a proportion of it as a contribution to the General Revenue.

AND gives '**absentee 2**. [Spec. use of *absentee* a landlord who lives abroad: see *OED* 2.] A non-resident landholder, esp. one who lives in the British Isles.' (1831).

This is an Australian term.

There is a lot of evidence for **Absentee Tax** in the Federation debates, but the quotations refer to absentee landlords who live in other Colonies rather than those living in Britain.

Absentee *convict term*: use Morris's text and quotes.

[**Morris: Absentee**, euphemistic term for a convict. The word has disappeared with the need for it.]

AND gives **absentee** 'Convict who has escaped from custody and remains at large'. (1805 to 1899).

The last citation in *AND* is 1899, which is consistent with Morris' entry.

The term is Australian but is obsolete.

Act the goat: to play the clown or buffoon, to behave or talk in an erratic or foolish fashion. A no doubt humorous variation of 'caper.' Both have foundation in the antics of goats at play.

OED gives '**goat 3. b. to play the (giddy) goat**: to frolic foolishly; to play the fool; to behave in an irresponsible manner. Also, **to act the goat**. *colloq.*' (1879).

This term is not exclusively Australian.

Act the Angora: a variant of 'Act the goat.'

The term is not in *OED* or *AND*.

Wilkes 1978 gives [**angora** sc. goat, usually in the phrase 'act (play) the angora. *obsolescent*] with citations for 1899, 1908, 1922, 1937, 1945. Wilkes 1996 drops the 1908 (But ther cove wot piles up a big fortchin fer others ter spend is a double-barrelled angora.) and 1937 (Don't be an angora, Leo. What d' you take me for?) citations and labels it obsolete.

None of Wilkes citations refers to **act the angora**, but rather 'the antic angora' 'a giddy angora of himself' and 'you great angora'. Wilkes evidence for this term is not convincing. The citations used by Wilkes does provide evidence that the word **angora** was used as a substitute for **goat**.

This term is not Australian.

(The phrase **act the angora** is in Baker 1941, 1943 not in 1945 or later.

EP 1967S takes it from Baker 1942.

It appears that Baker realised it was not an Australian term by 1945.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Ag and a tird: *obsolescent* Sydney street slang: a nickname for the telegraph messengers. Used by boys as a cry of derision 'Ag-and-a-tird, a Government loafer,' the loafer jibe takes point from the known fondness of the telegraphic messengers to loafing and yarning. A prominent citizen at one time took a snapshot of a group of telegraph boys having a yarn together.

This term is not Australian.

The entry provides a citation of **yarn** and **yarning** in its Australian sense of 'talk' which is between the 1913 and 1932 quotes in *AND*. S&O'B appear to have been unaware that these terms were Australian, as they did not include **yarn** or **yarning** as separate entries.

Agrovoke, agronoy: humorous twistings of provoke and annoy and aggravate.

This term is not Australian.

(The term **agrovoke** is in Baker 1941, 1943 & 1945 not later.

EP 1967S takes it from Baker 1942.

It appears that Baker realised it was not an Australian term by 1959.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Airing: *racine* 'Out for an airing' is said of a horse which starts in a race but is not intended to 'try.' 'Just out for an airing' looks like a variant of the phrase 'taking the air' as applied to a person who is out walking just for health or pastime. It is a common racing practice to 'run horses fit,' i.e. to make use of the races as gallops in company; or perhaps in a mile and a half race a trainer may instruct the jockey to make the mile a winning post, so that the trainer may time the horse for that distance in good company—a good safe method of 'trying a horse out,' more especially if he is intended for the races of shorter distance than the one he takes his airing in.

OED gives '**airing** *vbl.n.* 3. Exercising of horses in the open air.' (1631).

F&H give the literal sense from 1631 and the racing slang as common from 1889. The word as a racing term is also present in B&L and it is not marked Australian.

The standard sense of the term is not Australian.

The variation in S&O'B's definition is that the horse which is 'out for an airing' is not intended to try to win the race

Anabranh: use Morris's text and quotes.

[**Morris: Anabranh**, *n.* a branch of a river which leaves it and enters it again. The word is not Australian, though it is generally so reckoned.]

This term was 'invented' in a non-Australian context, but came to be used almost exclusively in Australia. It was first used in the *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London* in 1834. This citation plus the next three, two in 1847 and another in 1865 are articles about Australia. Morris' 1871 citation

is about England. All the citations in Morris give the spelling **ana branch** or **ana-branch**. Morris gives the spelling **anabbranch**.

AND gives **anabbranch** with citations 1834, 1839, 1844, 1853, 1859, 1862, 1881, 1902, 1913 etc. The only two 19th century citations which use **anabbranch** as a single word rather than two words or hyphenated, are Morris' entry and Leichhardt in his 1844 journal. The next instance is Henry Lawson in 1913. From this time the citations all give **anabbranch**.

This term is Australian.

Anarchist:

[only in A & B -Bush slang wax vestas or matches in general.]

There is a list of slang terms in the *Bulletin* 7/8/1897, by a correspondent with pen name '6x8', which has been used in S&O'B's material. The reference in this list to **anarchist** reads: 'Match—'Anarchist.' New. Only heard recently in western N.S.W.'

Although the *Bulletin* list is not included with the other newspaper citations that accompany the manuscript (A), it seems likely that Stephens used the *Bulletin* list. Of the 24 terms in the list, 21 are in S&O'B. The writer concludes by saying that 'New slang terms are soon circulated in the bush. Swagmen are always on the move, and always proud to be the first to introduce the latest epithet in camps or shearers huts.—6x8'.

The article is a contribution from a reader, R. Holt, so may have had some limited use in the bush. As Stephens removed the definition in the last copy of the manuscript, it appears he did not believe the use of the term had been established.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **anarchist** is in Baker 1941 and 1943, but not later than 1943. EP 1967S takes it from Baker.

It appears that Baker realised it was not an Australian term by 1945. It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Ante-up: *cards and slang* Cards—one method of playing poker calls for a blind stake, that is a stake payed into a pool before dealing or looking at the cards: this is called ante-up. 'Come on, ante-up!' is the call to the players to put up their money.

B&L give as (Amer. & Aust), a game of cards.

Slang: adapted from poker playing, to pay up, disgorge or refund money, to shell out.

A demand for wages, alms, stakes, or plunder: 'Come on now ante-up.'

[B&L **Anty-up** (Australian and American), a game of cards. From *ante*, the stake with which the dealer at poker commences each hand before dealing the cards; he puts up a "chip" in front of him, hence the name. ...

[B&L give a quote from Sladen '... where they have been playing *anty-up* (a favourite game with cards) for tobacco.]]

1. The method of playing poker which calls for an initial stake of money.
This sense is not Australian.

OED gives '**ante** *n.* 2. Orig. and chiefly *U.S.* In *Poker*, a stake put up by a player (usually, the eldest hand) before the draw; similarly in other card games.' (1838).

2. The particular variation of the game of poker.

B&L only provide Sladen's Australian evidence for the term, but claim it is also American. Their definition is a game of cards.

AND gives '**ante-up** *n.* Also **anty-up**. [*f. (orig.) U.S. ante* the initial stake in the game of poker.] The game of poker.' (1881).

The first citation, (1881), is identical to the citation from Sladen in *B&L*, but *AND* attribute the citation to Gant's *Bush-Life in Queensland*.

This sense is Australian.

3. The slang sense is an extension of the 'call to the players to put up their money' to a general call for money which is considered to be owing or due. Lighter gives '**ante** *v.* to pay, hand over, contribute; (*hence*) to do one's share.—often constr. with *up*.' (1861).

The citations in Lighter are from 1861 to 1990, and are all US.

AND gives '**ante-up** *v.* [*Transf. use of ante-up to put up an ante (see prec.)*.] *trans.* To provide (money) in advance, often as a contribution to a collective expense.' (1878 to 1984.)

The verb given in *AND* is US as it was used earlier in America from 1861.

This sense is not Australian.

There is no evidence as a demand for wages.

Artesian: *B&L* give: Gippsland, Vic, for colonial beer. Cascade beer is well known in Tasmania from name of Cascade Brewery. There seems to be a reversal of an old phrase in artesian as applied to beer. 'Adams ale' is a nickname for water.

The entry in *B&L* is not quoted verbatim, the full entry gives the reason for the term **artesian** which *S&O'B* omit to mention. *B&L* give as: 'Colonial beer. People in Gippsland, Victoria, use artesian just as Tasmanians use cascade, in the sense of 'beer,' because the one is manufactured from the celebrated artesian well at Sale, Gippsland, and the other from the cascade water.'

There is no evidence to support *S&O'B*'s origin which dives a reversal of water being referred to as ale (beer), beer being referred to as water. **Adams ale** was used in both England and America for 'water'. *B&L* assert that the sense is clearly transferred from the water used from an artesian well to produce the Victorian beer, as **cascade** was applied to the Tasmanian brewery because the water came from the cascades for Tasmanian beer.

AND uses a citation from K. LENTZNER 1892, but his entry is copied from *B&L*. There are only three citations in *AND*, the second being from Baker 1941. *B&L* therefore provides an *AND* antedating. When all of the evidence is examined the only two 'independent' citations are *B&L* and the 1948 *AND* citation from RAVEN-HART *Canoe in Australia*.

Raven-Hart was used extensively in *AND*, but many of the terms used from this author are only supported by evidence from Baker.
This term is not Australian.

Assigned: and variants: use Morris's text and quotes.

[**Morris: Assigned**, *past part. of verb to assign, to allot. Used as adj. of a convict allotted to a settler as a servant. Colloquially often reduced to "signed."*]
[Morris also gives *indented servant* as an alternative term.]

AND gives '**assigned 1.** Of a convict: made over into the service of a private individual.' (1806).

The term **assigned** is Australian, but by the time this material was compiled the term was obsolete.

Austral: Australasian: Australia: use Morris's text and quotes: compare with clipping annexed.

[**Morris: Austral**, *adj. "Belonging to the South, Southern. Lat. Australis, from auster, south-wind." ('O.E.D.')* The word is rarely used in Australasia in its primary sense, but now as equivalent to Australian or Australasian.]

AND gives **Austral** '**1.** Australian. Freq. poetic.' (1823), **Australasian** '**A.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Australia.' (1802), **Australia** '**1.** The continent in the Southern Hemisphere bounded by the Indian, Southern, and Pacific Oceans.' (1770).

These terms pertain to Australia, and it is essential that they be included in a dictionary of Australian terms, particularly so soon after Federation.

Australia: Morris gives older quotes, and also disagrees with G. Gerrard.

[Newspaper clipping 17.4.1897 (Red Page) attached to A:-

'In an official order from Govt. house, Sydney July 16, 1821, the word 'Australia' is used. This was printed in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE of July 21, 1821.—G. GERRARD.]

[**Morris: Australia** [Morris gives the history of the term of the term in a long entry. He noted that use of the adjective **Australian** predated **Australia** in English. The earliest use of Australia that he cites is Shaw and Smith's *Zoology and Botany of New Holland*, 'The vast Island or rather Continent of Australia, Australasia or New Holland.' He claims it was reinvented by Matthew Flinders in *Voyage to Terra Australis* dated 1814, 'Had I permitted myself any innovation upon the original term, it would have been to convert it into Australia; as being more agreeable to the ear, and an assimilation to the names of the other great portions of the earth'.]]

The disagreement between Morris and Gerrard refers to the first reference to the term. Gerrard believed the order from Government House was the first written Australian instance of the term, however Morris traces the origin from the older term **Australian**, which occurs in *OED*. Morris claims Shaw preferred the term **Australia** but Smith preferred **Australasia**. It is interesting the only early dictionaries which give the term **Australia** are Morris and Webster. This is the only slang dictionary which includes the term.

AND gives the first Australian citation as Shaw's *Zoology of New Holland* published in 1794. This was the second edition, it appeared first in Shaw and Smith's *Zoology and Botany of New Holland and the Isles* which was published in 1793, and this citation was used by Morris.

This is an Australian term, the etymology of which is from the 16th Century **Terra australis**, and in 1606 referred to by the Spaniard Fernandez de Quiros as **Australia del Espiritu Santa**, when he discovered part of the Great Southland. Morris was correct in asserting the first use by Shaw in 1793.

Australian Flag: an anecdote is told of a digger in Lambing Flat rush where men mostly did their own washing—digging custom enforced by lack of laundresses—exclaiming, when he hung a shirt to dry, 'That's the real Australian Flag that has never been under the sway of petticoat government.' An allusion to its freedom from female laundrying.

This term is not Australian. The entry above is the only instance of this sense of the term.

Australian Flag: not only bushmen, as asserted by Morris wear belts and show the Australian flag. Belt wearing is customary with most outdoor manual labourers in Australia in town and country both, and the bunt of a shirt is worked out by stooping and straightening whilst at work.

A fashion among diggers was a shirt with a pocket and collar similar to the present day cricketing shirt. These shirts were made of Melton cloth, Pilot cloth and other warm and heavy fabrics, and were often highly finished with colored silk stitching. Seams herring-boned and other fancy stitches. These shirts were neither belted around the waist nor tucked into the trousers, but worn as smocks. Morris gives: Hot climate and country work have brought in a fashion among bushmen of wearing a belt or leather strap round the top of trousers instead of braces. This often causes a fold in the shirt protruding all round from under the waistcoat, which is playfully known as 'the Australian Flag.' Slang.

[Newspaper clipping 4.9.1897 (Red Page) attached to A:-

The Aust Flag was the emblem of the 'Aust league' which sprang from 'the most important colonial agitation of modern times,' the agitation to effect the abolition of the transportation of convicts to Aust.]

[A & B read: 'These shirts were made of Melton cloth, Pilot cloth, and other warm and heavy fabrics, and were often highly finished with herring-boned and other fancy stitches.']

The newspaper clipping is an interesting historical anecdote, but does not provide evidence of the term as defined by S&O'B. This clipping is about a flag used by the Australian League, formed by John Dunmore Lang in April 1850. S&O'B refer to a shirt tail hanging over the trousers, from constant bending and straightening while working, this has nothing to do with a real flag but rather a likeness of the flapping shirt-tail to a flag.

There is little Australian evidence for the term outside this material. The term is used by Macquarie, Johanssen and all the later Oxford dictionaries, however there is very little evidence to suggest the term exists. The only other evidence comes from the dictionaries discussed below.

(The term **Australian flag** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945.

It appears that Baker realised it was not an Australian term after 1945.

EP 1961 gives 1870–1910.

Ramson says the term was little used. (1966 p 24n.), he did not use the term in *AND*.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B or Morris.)

B

Baal: aboriginal equivalent for 'no'

AND gives **baal** *adv.* 'Austral pidgin Obs. Also **bael**, **bail**, **bale**. [a. Dharuk *bial*.] Used to express negation: cf. *BORAK* *adv.* Also as *adj.*' (1790).

Although there are three citations in *AND* after 1876, they are commenting upon the word as it was used in the past. By the time S&O'B put this material together the term was obsolete.

Back blocks: Use Morris and quotes. Synonymous with 'out back', 'the bush', 'up country', 'the wire fence', 'Never Never': all co-variants of modern sense.

[**Morris: Back blocks**, *n.* (1) The far interior of Australia, and away from settled country. Land in Australia is divided on the survey maps into blocks, a word confined, in England and the United States, to town lands.

(2) The parts of a station distant from the *frontage* (q.v.).]

1. *AND* gives '**back block 1**. A tract of land in the remote interior; in *pl.*, sparsely populated country beyond the closely settled districts.' (1870).

2. *AND* gives '**back block 2**. Land behind that with a water frontage; land on which there is no permanent watercourse.' (1871).

This term is Australian.

Of the synonyms only **bush** and **never-never** are used as entries in the material, both relying on Morris. **Out back** and **up country** are Australian terms. **Out back** as an adjective has citations from the *Bulletin* and Henry Lawson, suggesting that in this form it may have been first used by the *Bulletin* writers. **The wire fence** is not found in any other dictionaries on Australian English in this sense.

Back-handed turn: B&L give - Stock Exchange term for having made an unprofitable bargain. *Australian* Any injury covertly effected while professing friendship is known as a back-handed turn, such as by way of giving a man assistance or advice which leads him into danger or difficulty. A 'turn' is any act either of enmity or friendship: a bad turn – a good turn.

[A & B add: 'turn' is also used in the sense of a jibe – a jeer – or a pointed allusion.]

1. (B&L sense) E.P. 1870–1914. This sense is standard.

B&L's stock exchange term is provided by S&O'B to show the difference between this and the 'Australian' sense. S&O'B do not suggest this term is Australian.

2. (Australian sense) *OED* gives '**back-handed**, *a.* 3. *fig. a.* Keeping back one's hand, backward, remiss; *b.* Indirect, like a back-handed sword-cut.' (1800). Hence **back-handedly** *adv.*, in an indirect or back-handed manner; **backhandedness**.' (1859).

OED gives '**turn**, *n.* 23. An act of good or ill will, or that does good or harm to another; a service: almost always with qualifying word, as **good turn**, a benefit; **bad**, **evil**, **ill**, **shrewd turn**, an injury.' (13..).

There is no other evidence for S&O'B's 'Australian' sense, although the elements of the compound are standard.

Back-slanging: (not in general use) answering abuse with abuse: returning a verbal Roland for an Oliver. Synonymous with slang-whanging.

B&L give **slang-whanging** as American.

F&H give **slang-whanging** a person addicted to slang.

This sense is not synonymous with S&O'B's definition of **back-slanging**.

OED gives '**Roland** 2. (**to give**) **a Roland for an Oliver**, (to give) as good as one gets, a quid pro quo or tit for tat.' (1612).

This sense is close to S&O'B's definition for **back-slanging**.

OED gives '**slang**, *v.* 3. *intr.* To utter, make use of, slang; to rail in abusive or vulgar language.' (1828).

There is no other evidence for the term **back-slanging** in this sense.

Back-slanging: *obs.* old meaning: use Morris's text etc.

Back-slanging: *modern* to back-answer cheek

Morris gives—(meaning which is obsolete), In the backblocks of Australia where hotels are naturally scarce and *sic* inferior the traveller asks for hospitality at the stations on his route, where he is always welcome *Sic*?

There are three entries for **back-slanging** in the manuscript at this point.

The third entry is the text from Morris which is referred to in the second entry as 'old meaning'.

1. *OED* gives '**slang**, *v.* 4. *trans.* To abuse or scold violently.' (1844).

Hence '**slanging** *vbl. n.* **slanging match**: an exchange of abuse; a vituperative argument.' (1856).

There is no other evidence for **back-slanging** in this sense.

2. Morris's entry continues after the section quoted by S&O'B. 'There is no idea of anything underhand on the part of the traveller, yet the custom is called *back-slanging*.' Morris does not provide citations and appears to query the term in this last sentence.

There is no other evidence for **back-slanging** in this sense.

(Baker 1941 & 1943 gives 'a backcountry practice (especially among tramps) of seeking hospitality at stations. Obsolete.' Baker does not include the term after 1943.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from Morris.)

Bad halfpenny: B&L give:- Australian convicts - a fruitless errand, 'No go.' Vaux in his memoirs says: When a man has been upon any errand, or attempting any object which has proved unsuccessful or impracticable he will say on his return, 'It is a bad halfpenny,' meaning that he returned as he went. B&L give:- a Ne'er-do well is called a bad halfpenny because the N-d-w is so hard to get rid of. He is said to turn up like a bad halfpenny because imperfect coins are constantly being traced back to and forced back on the person who circulates them.

[A & B add: Apropos of which an anecdote of Roberts' Hotel.]

There is no clipping with the anecdote mentioned in A and B attached to the manuscript.

The first entry from B&L, which S&O'B quote, is a direct copy of Vaux. B&L adds: 'Probably taken out by the convicts transported thither.'

F&H give **Bad halfpenny** Aust 'a failing speculation.'

OED gives '**halfpenny 2.** Phrases. **to have one's heart, or hand, on one's halfpenny**, to have a particular object in view (*obs.*). So **to have one's hand on another halfpenny. more kicks than halfpence**: see KICK *n.* **not a halfpenny the worse; a bad halfpenny.**'

1819 J.H. VAUX *Mem.* II. 154 When a man has been upon any errand, or attempting any object which has proved unsuccessful or impracticable, he will say on his return, It's a bad halfpenny; meaning he has returned as he went.
1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet Let.* 22 It was not the first time, nor the second, that I had gone away as it seemed, permanently but yet returned, like the bad halfpenny.

1895 *Brewer's Dict. Phr. & Fable* (new ed.) 571/2 *I am come back again, like a bad ha'penny.* A facetious way of saying, 'More free than welcome'. As a bad ha'penny is returned to its owner, so have I returned to you, and you cannot get rid of me.

E.P. gives **Bad halfpenny** 1810–1850 became **bad penny** by 1930s. Partridge does not label this term Australian.

It seems likely S&O'B are relying on Vaux for their Australian evidence.

Vaux cannot be taken as evidence of Australian origin, as he implies the term came from Britain with the convicts.

This term is not Australian.

(The term is in Baker 1941 & 1943, but not after 1943.
It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Bag: the sack or dismissal. B&L gives 'to give the bag,' i.e. to dismiss or run away. The original of sack in the sense of dismissal from employment or engagement. 'Pack your bag and get, i.e. go,' is common vernacular.

OED gives **bag**, *n.* 19. '**to give the bag to:** to leave without warning (*obs.*); also in mod. dial., to dismiss (a servant, etc.) Also **to get the bag:** to be dismissed; [Cf. to give the SACK].' (1647).

This sense is not Australian.

Bag: to secure possession of, to steal: Origin possibly in field sports – to bag birds, hares, etc.

OED gives '**bag**, *v.*¹ 6. *colloq. a.* To seize, catch, take possession of, steal. To add to one's 'bag' (BAG *n.* 9). *fig.*' (1818).

This sense is not Australian.

Bait-layer: *station slang* a cook: cross ref. poisoner. In common use on stations throughout New South Wales and Queensland. A baitlayer proper is a boundary rider or other station employee whose duty it is to distribute pieces of poisoned meat, about the station as baits for dingoes, wild cats, or dogs. Particular opprobrium attaches to this word when used by travellers or drovers, whose dogs often die of poisoning through picking up these baits which malicious station owners' and employees, exceeding their legal right, often throw about on stock routes and public roads. Considering the value of good dogs to drovers and the attachment that often exists between a traveller and the dog, the epithet has in this sense a meaning equal to the use of 'informer' in Ireland in this century.

A bait-layer, a mean and despicable scoundrel who, working unseen, lays a bait for a dumb animal. Within the station boundaries a squatter is within his rights in laying baits. Vagrant dogs from camps and townships and travelling dogs often go into paddocks and worry large numbers of sheep. Dogs of any kind are therefore a natural enemy of the sheepbreeder, and the more unscrupulous of the owners anticipating the breaking-in of the dogs by laying baits outside have given this word point. There are heavy penalties for outside bait-laying.

By a kind of grim humour this word has been applied to cooks. Firstly to bad cooks, ultimately to all cooks. A cook may be a bad 'bait-layer' or a 'good poisoner.' At different times in the Australian Press there have appeared accounts of serious tragedies through the use by mistake of poisons for baking powder. Many deaths have ensued. Poison on stations carelessly left about kitchens in tins, jars or bottles falling into the cooks hands have no doubt first earned the cooks the name of poisoner or bait-layer. A bad cook who turned out sour bread, sodden duff, or other unpalatable food caught the title, and now all cooks are the butt of this word used jokingly.

This term does not appear in *AND* or *OED* but there is evidence of the use of the term. Examples from the files of *ANDC* are:

W.E. Harney (1946) wrote:

'The men sometimes divide them [cooks] into three classes—cooks, cuckoos and wilful murderers. For a joke they will refer to their cook as "the baitlayer".' Vietnam Vet Giblett (1990) wrote;

'Bruce was an RAAF cook—unkindly referred to as a "baitlayer".'

There is enough evidence to confirm this as Australian and it should be in *AND*.

(**Bait-layer** is in Baker 1943, 1945 & 1959, but not in 1941.

E.P. 1967S cites B., 1943.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Baked: tired out, done up, sometimes drunk. B&L give: Australian, tired out. Simply means done or cooked.

[A & B add: *slang*.]

1. *AND* gives **baked** *obs.* exhausted 1861 – 1888.

This sense is Australian.

2. *Lighter* gives '**baked** *adj.* *Stu.* drunk or high.' (1975).

This term has become part of American language from 1975 as a term for being drunk or under the influence of drugs. It does not appear in early American dictionaries. It is interesting that the sense of being drunk should appear in this manuscript sixty years earlier than any other citation evidence.

This sense is not thought to be Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**baked**, *ppl. a.* 1. *a.* Cooked by dry heat.' (1611).

This sense is not Australian.

Balance: *thieves and sporting* to cheat in money or kind. Bookmakers who bet certain odds and if a winner only pay out the original stake or a portion of the winnings are called 'balancers.' They are just a degree above welchers. To obtain anything on a false pretence or trick is also known as balancing.

There is no other evidence for this sense.

(Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 & 1959.

E.P. 1967S cites B., 1942.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Ball: *veterinary* a large medicinal pill used in veterinary practice: by transference to a nip of spirits. A trotting ball *fictitious* is supposed to make a horse trot. To tell a man he wants a ? *trotting* ball is an expression of derision. To give a man 'a ball' is to 'shake' him up.

[A & B add: A talking to or livening tip.]

This entry was spelt **bull** in all manuscripts, but its placement suggests it was meant to read **ball**.

There is no evidence for the term in any other dictionaries.

Ballahoo: The sense of 'ballahoo' in this instance is the Australian meaning—a cranky illfound ship. Morris misses this meaning, gives it as a fish name, but supplies the information that 'the word is West Indian, and is there applied to a fast sailing schooner.' Its Australian use is limited.

Lighter gives **ballyhoo** ¹ *n.* [app.< Sp *balahú* 'schooner'] *Naut.* an unseaworthy or slovenly ship. Also **ballyhoo of blazes**.' (1836 to 1899).

OED gives '**ballyhoo of blazes** *Naut. slang.* Sailors' term of contempt for a vessel which they dislike for any reason.' (1836).

Morris's entry is correct. This term is not Australian.

Balter: B&L – is of Anglo-Irish origin and signifies on the street.

From Irish word 'bolhar' a road. In some parts of Ireland pronounced 'balter'—Ballerstown, Green Batter, Stony Batter. A. Smythe Palmer.

This term is not in B&L under **balter**, or **bolhar**. The definition from B&L is in the entry for **On the batter**. S&O'B have confused the spelling in this entry, the definition is the same as the later entry for **batter**.

The *Concise Ulster Dictionary* gives '**on the batter** on the tramp, wandering about without any particular business. ... [English slang 'on the spree'. Batter is popularly understood as Irish *bóthar* (Old Irish *báthar*, *bóthar*; see BOREEN) and this appears to have influenced the senses. However, it is not certain that the Irish word is the source, as the *t* in *bóthar* has not been pronounced since the medieval period, and there is no evidence for the slang phrase *on the batter* before the nineteenth century.]'

Hotten gives '**Batter**, ... "on the BATTER," "on the streets," "on the town," or given up to roystering and debauchery.'

This term is not Australian.

Banagher: and that bangs Banagher: and Banagher bangs the devil Irish: and that bangs Banagher—is equivalent to—and that beats all I ever saw or heard of. Of Irish origin. In use among Australians of Irish parentage.

Lighter gives '**banagher**—To surpass everything.' (1817).

B&L give '**Banagher**, to bang.'

The *Concise Ulster Dictionary* gives '**Banagher**: *that beats or bangs Banagher (and Banagher bangs the devil) that beats everything.* [Hiberno-English. This is the name of a parish in Co. Londonderry, but there are at least eight townlands called Banagher around Ireland, and a small town in Co. Offaly.]'

It is clear that this is of Irish origin and became common in the colonies where Irish people settled.

The close comparison between S&O'B and the *Concise Ulster Dictionary* suggests the entry was taken from an Irish dictionary.

This term is not Australian.

Banjo: *bush slang*. A bush name for a frying-pan: the bush frying pan has a long handle and somewhat resembles a banjo.
Bush slang for a shoulder of mutton.

[Newspaper clipping 7th August 1897, Red Page attached to A:-

Shoulder of mutton – 'Banjo.' Ribs of mutton – 'Concertina.' Ancient, and very common throughout Aust. Both terms of course, refer to the meat's appearance.]

1. As a name for a frying pan *OED* gives '**banjo** 2. *a. transf.* Applied to contrivances of the shape of a banjo: see quotes.' (1867).

Lighter gives '**banjo** *n.* 1. [fr. the shape] a frying pan.' There are only two citations, the first being from Wilkes, which is the S&O'B citation and the other a U.S. citation from 1973, much later than the Wilkes' citation.

Wilkes only evidence is this material.

There is no other evidence for the use of the term **banjo** defined as a frying pan, although it is possible it was current at the time S&O'B were writing, given the common application of the term to things shaped like a banjo.

This term is not Australian.

2. A shoulder of mutton *AND* gives **banjo**. [Fig. use of *banjo* musical instrument, as applied to objects similar in shape.] 1. A shoulder (of mutton).' (1897). The first citation is from the newspaper included above.

This term is Australian.

(**Banjo** is in Baker, in both senses, in 1941, 1942 and 1959, but not in 1945. It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Banker: river. Use Morris's text and quotes.

[**Morris: banker** *n.* a river full up to the top of the banks.]

AND gives **banker** 1. A creek or river swollen to the top of, or over-flowing, its banks.' (1848).

This term is Australian.

Banyan day: Friday is so called in the bush. Any day of starvation or short diet is also called a Banyan day. With Boundary riders or out-station dwellers the last day of their weekly rations is known as Banyan day. Of nautical origin. B.& L. give – those on which no flesh meat was served out to the messes. Stock-fish used to be served out till it was found to promote scurvy.

OED gives **banian** 4. *attrib.* (in reference to the Banians' abstinence from flesh and sacred estimation of animal life): **banian-day** (*Naut.*), one on which no meat is served out;' (1748).

In *Ozwords* (April 2000 pp7,8), Roly Sussex claims that it is used in Australia when the usual family cook 'leaves the rest to make do.' He then cites the RN web site for the modern usage.

This term is not Australian.

(Although Baker does not include the term in any of his dictionaries of slang, in *The Australian Language* (1945 p.82) he uses S&O'B as evidence that the term has Australian associations, and adds '[f]or instance, the note 'No banyan days', meaning that meat would be supplied every day, is used twice in a Certificate of Victualling, dated 10 March 1796.')

Barcoo rot and vomit: use Morris's text and quotes, but compare with clips which may come to hand.

[**Morris: Barcoo Rot**, *n.* a disease affecting inhabitants of various parts of the interior of Australia, but chiefly bushmen. It consists of persistent ulceration of the skin, chiefly on the back of the hands, and often originating in abrasions. It is attributed to monotony of diet and to the cloudless climate, with its alternations of extreme cold at night and burning heat by day. It is said to be maintained and aggravated by the irritation of small flies.

Barcoo Vomit, *n.* a sickness occurring in inhabitants of various parts of the high land of the interior of Australia. It is characterized by painless attacks of vomiting, occurring immediately after food is taken, followed by hunger, and recurring as soon as hunger is satisfied.]

AND gives **barcoo** 2. Special Comb. '**rot**, scurvy.' (1870), '**vomit**, *Barcoo sickness*.' (1881).

These terms are Australian.

Barracking: Barrack: to shout encouragement to your own side at any contest and to deride the efforts of the other side or cheer their mistakes or failures. Football, cricket, pugilistic and political partisans who attend sports or meetings and encourage and aid their own side with cheers and shouts and discourage or deride the opposition with yells or insults are known as barrackers. Still barracking can be carried on without offence, such as cheering successes. This is a first class illustration of what 'barracking' at matches or contests consist of. The word has reached up out of the domain of pure slang and has become good journalese.

Cross refer to 'borak' for further derivation.

[Newspaper clipping 2.1.1897 attached to A:-

Melbourne Age – barracks hard and barrack always for Alfred Deakin the windy orator with the stubborn black hair is evidently David Symes' nominee for the next Premiership vacancy.]

AND gives '**barrack**, v [Prob. Br. dial. (N.Irel.) *barrack* to brag, to be boastful of one's fighting powers: see EDD and OEDS. It is unlikely that there is any connection with BORAK.] 1. *trans.* To ridicule, jeer at verbally abuse (a person etc.).' (1878).

'Hence **barracking** *vbl. n.* and *ppl.a.*' (1878).

The *Concise Ulster Dictionary* gives '**barracker** a braggart. **barracking** bragging, boastfulness.'

This is an Australian term.

An Irish derivation seems more probable than from the term **borak**. **To poke borak**, from *Wathawurung*, was a phrase in Austral. pidgin meaning to poke fun of or deride a person. This phrase was first recorded in 1873. It seems more likely that the sporting term **barrack** came from the Irish immigrants term used for boasting about fighting powers than the Aboriginal bush term to make fun of a person.

Barrikin: 'The high words in a tragedy we call jawbreakers, and we say we can't tumble to that barrikin.' Mayhew - *London Labour and the London Poor*.

[A & B add: Vide B&L]

OED gives '**barrikin** = BARAGOUIN 1851 MAYHEW *London Lab.* I. 15/1 The high words in a tragedy we calls jaw-breakers, and say we can't tumble to that barrikin.'

OED gives **baragouin** Language so altered in sound or sense as to become generally unintelligible; jargon, 'double-Dutch.' Hence **baragouinish** *a.* (a1613).

This term is not Australian.

Barts: *obsolescent* old Sydney larrikin slang: girls, young unmarried females: of London origin seemingly akin with dutch, duchess, as applied to wife or sweetheart. Tart appears to be a rhyming slang variant to bart.

[A & B add: SYNS- shieksha, clinah, donah, rabbit, moll, cat.]

AND gives **bart**. '*Obs.* Rhyming slang for TART.' 1879 to 1900.

AND does not use the S&O'B entry which would provide a postdating. This term is Australian.

Batch: batcher: B&L give *American*—to form a party and live without woman's aid and society in the woods or by the seaside.

[Newspaper clipping undated attached to A:-

A novel form of University life is being seriously talked about in Queensland educational circles. For a quarter of a century Queensland has been thinking of establishing a University, but till the present has got no further than the

extension lectures provided by Sydney. The new proposal comes to this: Young men who go in for their extension lectures will, on their own account, rent a house or houses in Brisbane, where they will 'batch,' or live in common. The idea is feasible, and will have the advantage of keeping the students together. At present they are scattered all over the town.]

AND gives **batch**, v. 'To live on one's own, or to provide for oneself, simply and without usual domestic conveniences.' (citations from 1882) 'hence **batcher** n.' (1895).

Lighter gives '**batch** or **bach** v. to camp, keep house, or live as a bachelor.' (1862).

The US evidence is earlier than the Australian evidence, but is more common in Australia than in the U.S.

This term is Australian.

Batcher: obviously a corruption of batchelor. Bachelor was originally applied in mining, contracting or other camps to a man who, instead of boarding or messing with other men, obtained and cooked his own food. It now applied to Men doing the same thing either singly or collectively in the cities. In the country 'batcher' has come to have a meaning akin to 'hatter'.

AND gives **batch**, v. 'hence **batcher** n.' (1895). The first citation is from the *Bulletin*.

This term is Australian.

Batter: in civil engineering—batter, the slope of brickwork, masonry or earthworks. In navying: trimming the batter— i.e. smoothing or surfacing the sides of cuttings or excavations, is an easy or fancy job: a man on the batter has good times. Among navvies the slang meaning is to go on the loaf or debauch. Common meaning—the circle of debauchery. *Popular*—wear and tear. 'Can't stand the batter,' i.e. not equal to the task. 'On the batter,' on the streets applies to prostitutes, termed in French argot 'battre le quart,' with this special meaning; also given up to debauchery. Vide B&L

[A & B add: B&L - is of Anglo-Irish origin and signifies on the street. From Irish word 'bothar' a road. In some parts of Ireland pronounced as 'batter' - Batterstown, Green Batter, Stony Batter. A. Smythe Palmer.]

1. OED gives '**batter**, n.² The slope of a wall, terrace, or bank, from the perpendicular; a receding slope, etc.' (1743).

2. OED gives **batter**, n.⁴ *slang*. A spree, debauch, esp. in phr. **on the batter**. (See also quot. 1890.) '1890 FARMER *Slang* I. 143/2 To go on the batter, i.e., to walk the streets for purposes of prostitution.' (1839).

F&H gives two senses, 'wear and tear,' and 'TO GO ON THE BATTER to walk the streets for purposes of prostitution.'

The *Concise Ulster Dictionary* gives **on the batter**—on the tramp, wandering about without any particular business.

All senses are not Australian.

Battling: street walking or soliciting by prostitutes. Battlers as a nickname for street prostitutes has its root no doubt in 'batter', slang for 'on the street' or 'debauchery.' See 'batter' 'Battling for a living' perhaps from hardship and misery of a prostitute's life, has come to mean struggling or fighting for a living in a general sense. An unfortunate of either sex out of employment and eking out an existence is said to be battling. 'On the Johnny Russell' as a variant for battling is merely a rhyming slang arrangement of 'on the bustle'.

[A & B add: *Bush slang* Battler a hard up traveller or swagman who is 'battling for a crust']

[Newspaper clipping 7th August.1897 (Red Page) attached to A:-

Battling – i.e. struggling – 'On the Johnnie Russel. A city term quite new in the bush. Used in Q. & NSW, towns – mainly public house loafers.]

See also **Johnny Russell**

AND gives **battle** v. 4. *intr.* To work as a prostitute. (1898.) 'Hence **battling** *vbl. n.* and *ppl.a.*

This term is Australian.

Beachcomber: a beche-de-mer fisher, a pearler, or any wandering Pacific Island trader is generally known as a beachcomber; more especially applied to semi-hermits or single adventurers who search for wreckage etc.

AND gives **beachcomber**. *Pearling*. [Spec. use of *beachcomber* one who seeks a subsistence living on a beach: see OED(S.)] (1907).

The sense of 'a pearler' is Australian.

Beat: off his, or **our**: *slang* out of his regular path: out of his latitude: away from his usual haunts, habits or likings. 'Off our beat'—a newspaper reply to a correspondent who submitted unusable or unsuitable contributions. From 'beat,' the fixed round or patrol of a policeman on duty, this perhaps an abbreviation of 'beaten track.'

OED gives '**beat**, *n.*¹ 10.b. A course habitually traversed by any one; sometimes *fig.*, esp. in phrase, **out of one's beat**: not in one's sphere or department.' (1786).

This phrase is not Australian.

Beef out: to sing out. *Quote* Beef stop thief.

To beef a person is to raise a hue and cry after him in order to get him stopped.— Vaux's Memoirs. from B&L.

Lighter gives '**beef** v. 1.a. *Und.* to cry out; (*hence*) to say; to talk.' Vaux is given for the etymology, the first U.S. citation is from *Nat. Police gazette* (1866).

EDD gives 'Rhyming slang for 'Stop thief.' (1791).

This term is not Australian.

Bell-bottomed trousers: trousers which are very wide at the ankles. Navy trousers are about twenty-four inches about the ankles.

This term is in *AND* under **larrikin**. The 1890 citation from H.A. White in *Crime & Criminals* refers to the dress of the larrikin having 'tight fitting bell-bottomed trousers'.

OED gives **bell**, *n.*¹ 12. Special combinations **bell-bottomed** *a.*, of trousers, having a considerable increase in width from below the knee to the bottom of the leg, giving a bell-shaped appearance; also, of an individual, esp. of a class accustomed to wear such trousers;' (1891). All the citations for **bell-bottomed** are Australian.

This term is Australian.

Bell-bottomed push: a section of the Melbourne public who mostly affect the bell-bottomed trousers. Owing no doubt to their freedom, trousers with more or less bell-bottom are favoured by the majority of bush workers throughout Australia.

Although **bell-bottomed push** does not appear in *AND*, as seen above, bell-bottomed trousers were associated with the push.

Most references are about the Sydney push although some citations refer to pushes in Adelaide and Melbourne.

There is no other evidence for the phrase **bell-bottomed push**.

Belltopper: high silk hats of any kind – no doubt so called from the old style of hat which broadened out at the crown—bell-wise.

OED gives '**bell**, *n.*¹ **bell-topper**, a 'topper', or top-hat, esp. one of old-fashioned type with a bell-shaped crown;' (1858). This citation is Australian. The 1871 citation is not Australian.

AND gives **belltopper** 'Any of various types of tall hat. Also belltopper hat.' (1858). *AND* has four Australian citations before 1885. The two 1858 citations used by *OED* and *AND* are different.

Most of the evidence for this term is shown to be Australian.

Benjamin: aboriginal for husband. Use Morris's text and quotes.

[Morris: **Benjamin**, *n.* a husband, in Australian pigeon-English.]

AND gives '**benjamin** *Obs.* See quot. 1870.'

1870 '... With the black people a husband is now called a 'benjamin''

There is no evidence for this term after 1909, so the term was probably obsolete by the time S&O'B put the material together.

Betting round and over: *bookmaking* 'betting round' is to have made a book so that no matter which horse wins you can pay with the stakes in hand: - 'and over' is to have a sure profit under the same circumstances.

F&H give **betting round** '(racing).—Laying fairly and equally against nearly all the horses in a race, so that no great risk can be run. Commonly called GETTING ROUND.—*Hotten*.' This is also the same as the B&L entry. There is no other Australian evidence for this term.

Bidgee: an abbreviation of Murrumbidgee, by which that river is commonly known by bushmen.

E.P. gives since 1860. The date given by Partridge is earlier than any other evidence for the term. **Bidgee** does not appear in *AND* or Wilkes, but there is evidence of usage from 1895 until the present. This term is Australian.

(Baker 1941, 1943 & 1945 but he ceased to use the term after this dictionary. Perhaps derived from S&O'B.)

Big fellow: Australian aboriginal—English or large or big one or number, more especially used in reference to size. 'Mine wurrud that big pfellar possum'—my word that's a big possum.

AND gives '**big**, *a.* 1.a. *Austral. pidgin*. Great in size, quantity, duration, importance, or intensity, esp. in the collocations **big fellow**, **mob**, **one**.' (big fellow 1870). The last citation is 1983. This is an Australian term.

Bilk: to avoid paying, to slope, more especially a prostitute's phrase for robbing a man.

OED gives '**bilk**, v. To 'do (a person) out' of (his due); to cheat, defraud; to evade payment of (a debt).' (1672).

Matsell gives '**bilk** to cheat.' The U.S. evidence is confined to cheating rather than evading payment.

Hotten gives '**Bilk**, a cheat, or a swindler. Formerly in general use, now confined to the streets, where it is common, and mostly used in reference to prostitutes.'

This term is not Australian.

Bilking crib: a house made use of by prostitutes for purpose of robbery.

[A & B add: See crib.]

F&H give **Crib** 'A house; place of abode; shop; warehouse; 'den,' 'diggings,' or 'snuggery.'" 1598.

The entry for **bilk** in Hotten, seen in the previous entry, refers to prostitutes and clarifies the first element of the compound.

There is no evidence that this is an Australian term.

Billabong: mostly a chain of waterholes or a depression which contains water, never a running stream. A story is told of a Chairman of a Water Conservation Commission writing to a squatter to know which way a certain billabong ran. The reply he received was that it did not run at all, it stayed in the same place.
Use Morris's derivations and quotes.

AND gives '**billabong** [a. Wiradhuri *bila* river + *ban*, signifying a watercourse which runs only after rain; orig. as a place-name, with reference to the Bell River in s.e. N.S.W.]" (1836).

This term is Australian.

Billet: *Australian* employment of any kind—a Government billet—a permanent billet etc. Obviously from the military practice of billeting soldiers. Many jobs in Australia are of the board and lodging kind, that is, so much wages and board and lodging, which practically means billet.

[A & B read: Many jobs in Australia are of the board and lodging kind, that is, so much wages and board and lodging.]

AND gives '**billet 1**. A job, employment; a particular task ...; a sinecure.' (1843).

This term was transferred from the military sense to the sense of board and lodging, and it is the latter that is considered to be Australian in origin.

Billet hunter: Australian equivalent for American office-seeker. 'The spoils to the victor.' When a new Ministry or Parliament comes in there is always a mob of their supporters hunting around for billets.

AND gives '**billet 2**. Comb. **billet-hunter**.' (1894 and 1899) Both citations are from the *Bulletin*.

This could be classed as a *Bulletinism* as the only citations for billet-hunter are from the *Bulletin* and this material.

Billy: a can for cooking purposes: originally a billy-can. The prefixing of a Christian name is common in English slang;—can has been dropped and the prefix is commonly used—for the article. Parallel instances are Jack-shay, Jemmy-Woodser, Jimmy Woodser.

Morris dates and quotes. Use Morris's text and quotes.

Note tinned meat is known throughout Australian bush as bully meat: bully is a corrupt of Bouilli, French. Query? Would the name of billy-cock or billy hat have anything to do with the word billy?

[**Morris: Billy**, *n.* a tin pot used as a bushman's kettle. The word comes from the proper name, used as abbreviation for William. Compare the common uses of 'Jack,' 'Long Tom,' 'Spinning Jenny.' It came into use about 1850. ... About 1850, the billy superseded the *quart-pot* (q.v.), chiefly because of its top-handle and its lid. Another suggested derivation is that *billy* is shortened from *billycan*, which is said to be bully-can (sc. Fr. *bouilli*). In the early days "boeuf bouilli" was a common label on tins of preserved meat in ship's stores. These tins, called "bully-tins," were used by diggers and others as the modern billy is (see quotation 1835). A third explanation gives the origin the aboriginal word *billa* (river or water).

1835 T.B. Wilson, 'Voyage Round the World,' p. 238:

"An empty preserved meat-canister serving the double purpose of tea-kettle and tea-pot."]

AND gives '**billy** *n.*¹ [f. Scot. dial. *billy-pot* cooking utensil, cf. *bally*, *bally-cog* milk pail: see SND.] **1**. A vessel for the boiling of water, making of tea, etc., over an open fire; a cylindrical container, usu. of tin, enamel ware, or aluminium, fitted with a lid and a wire handle.' (1849).

DNZE gives '**billy-pot**—cooking utensil: Aberdeen 1828. Poss. Reinforced by the early immigrant Bouilli (-tin) in various pronunciations for a utensil often orig. improvised from *bouilli* (tinned meat or stew) containers.' (1853).

There has been much debate about the origin of this word, as shown by the entry in DNZE and Morris's entry. The most likely origin for **billy** is as AND claims Scot. Dial.

This term is Australian.

Bingy: aboriginal for belly. Corpulence of stomach is called bingy: in slang sense, bingy has a meaning similar to the English 'corporation.'

AND gives **bingy** '[a. Dharuk *bindi*.] The stomach; the belly.' (1791). This term is Australian.

Bit in hand: *sporting*: a jockey who is riding easy, that is, still has a hold on his horse, not letting him have all the rein, is said to have a bit in hand. A horse winning hard-held wins with a good bit in hand.

OED gives '**hand**, *n.* 12. *Horsemanship*. In various expressions referring to the management of the reins and bit with the hand; often = skill in handling the reins.' (1375). This term is not Australian.

A bit up his sleeve: similar meaning, perhaps combination of variant of bit in hand and gambling allusion to a 'card up the sleeve'

OED gives '**sleeve**, *n.* **b. to have in or up one's sleeve**, to have in reserve, at one's disposal, or ready for some need or emergency. Also **to put up one's sleeve**.' (1500-20). Of the citations in OED, the variant 'to have something up one's sleeve' appears first in 1890, and interestingly it occurs in a racing context: 'At the finish Barrett had considerably more up his sleeve than the three lengths with which he finished.' This is not an Australian term.

A bit to go on with: having funds sufficient for the present: punters and racing men in particular speak of winning a bit to go on with.

OED gives '**bit**, *n.*² 4. **e. a bit**: a sum of money; money. (Cf. 8a.) *slang*.' (1894). There is no evidence that this is Australian.

Bite his Lug: *lug biters—sponges, cadgers* to accost a person for a loan or alms. From the habit of persons whispering when they ask for a loan in a public place. 'Biting a bit out of his lug' is a variant.

AND gives '**bite**, *v.* [Abbrev. of *to bite the ear* to borrow money from (someone): see OEDS *bite v.* 16.] *trans.* To solicit money, etc., from; to 'touch' for, to scrounge (food).' (1895).

There is no evidence for the phrase to **bite his lug**.
This term is not Australian.

Biting your name: B&L give: taking a large draught of liquor: drinking deeply or greedily. *Australian bush* invitation to a person to have a feed. Sometimes altered to 'Sign your hand' or 'name'.

F&H give '**Bite one's name in**, *verbal phr.* (common).—To drink heavily; to tipple; also to drink greedily.'

There is no other evidence for the extended meaning 'to have a feed'.

(**To bite someone's name**—'to have a meal' is in Baker 1941, 1943 & 1945. The term is not used by Baker in later works.

E.P. 1967S cites B., 1942.

Green gives **to bite someone's name**—[1920's+] Aus. To eat a meal for which someone else has paid.)

Black Thursday, Black Wednesday, Black War, Black line: use Morris's text and quotes, dates, etc.

[**Morris: Black Thursday**, the day of a Victorian conflagration, which occurred on Feb. 6, 1851. The thermometer was 112° in the shade. Ashes from the fire at Macedon, 46 miles away, fell in Melbourne. The scene forms the subject of the celebrated picture entitled "Black Thursday," by William Strutt, R.B.A.

Black Wednesday, *n.* a political phrase for a day in Victoria (Jan. 9, 1878), when the Government without notice dismissed many Civil Servants, including heads of departments, County Court judges and police magistrates, on the ground that the Legislative Council had not voted the money for their salaries.

Black-war, or **Black-Line**, a military operation planned in 1830 by Governor Arthur for the capture of the Tasmanian aborigines. A levy *en masse* of the colonists was ordered. About 5000 men formed the "black line," which advanced across the island from north to south-east, with the object of driving the tribes into Tasman's Peninsula. The operation proved a complete failure, two blacks only being captured at a cost to the Government of £30,000.]

AND gives **Black Thursday** (1851), **Black Wednesday** (1878), **Black war** (1830) and **Black line** (1835).

These terms are all historically Australian.

Black trackers: aboriginals enlisted and trained to assist the regular mounted police known as troopers. They were mostly used in places where their own countrymen are troublesome, spearing cattle, murdering settlers or robbing stations. Within civilized territory their duty is generally tracking, i.e. picking up and following the track of horse or cattle thieves, tracking persons lost in the bush, etc. Black or native police or troopers. 'Black Trackers' is an adaptation of their speciality. The achievements of trackers in following and leading the police

to their quarry rival the doings of the heroes of American backwoods and Red Indian romance.

Slang limited use. Nickname for religious people who are always running to their spiritual adviser or assistance, advice or comfort. A transposition of 'black' from black coats, clergy, and 'track'—to pursue or follow.

1. *AND* gives '**black** *n.a*¹, and *attrib.* [Spec. use of *black* dark-skinned (person).] 6. In special collocations: **black tracker**, TRACKER.' (1862).

In this sense, this term is Australian.

2. There is no evidence outside this material for the slang form of this term.

Black-birds: a name for Polynesian labourers. Recruiting Islanders through Polynesia as labourers in the Queensland sugar plantations became a regular trade which a fleet of vessels followed exclusively. So much per head was paid to the 'Labour Agents' for every Islander landed in Queensland. They were indentured for a term of years with the option of remaining or having their passage provided back to their native land. Through lack of Legislative supervision, and evasion of the sparse existing regulations many abuses crept into the trade. Allegations were made in some instances proved which led to the Queensland Government inquiring and interfering with a traffic which almost paralleled the early African slave trade. Black-birding came to be the occupation of many rotten ships and unscrupulous officers and crews. The traffic stank in the nostrils of all Australia, and even attracted English Parliamentary notice. Black-birding is still carried on, but under severer restrictions. Among nautical men the phrase that a certain brig or schooner is engaged in black-birding is well understood.

'But sometimes - we are glad to say in the past -iniquitously blackbirded or kidnapped and practically sold into slavery.' - Daily Telegraph.

Morris quotes all good.

The daily Telegraph citation is identical to the citation in B&L.

First recorded in Hotten (1859). '**Blackbirding**, slave-catching. Term most applied nowadays to the Polynesian coolie traffic.' This is not marked Australian.

AND gives **blackbirding** 'The act or practice of kidnapping, or otherwise obtaining, Pacific islanders and trafficking in them as labour, mainly for the Queensland cotton and sugar plantations.' (1871).

This term and its derivatives were commonly used in Australia.

Blackleg: a man who accepts work where other men are on strike: a non-union man. Bush and shearers' idiom—scab. Cross refer to scab. 'By the way he was a blackleg who discovered the 'lead' named whereon the boys christened his claim 'Scab Hill.'— Bulletin, 3. 7. 97

OED gives '**black-leg, -legs**, *n.* 3. a. A local name of opprobrium for a workman willing to work for a master whose men are on strike. (Also called *black-neb.*) Now *gen.*' (1865).

This term is not Australian.

Blawsted Kawlinies: *humorous journalese*: a parody spelling on the pronunciation of the 'Haw-Haw' English immigrant or tourist type. The prefixed adjective is often used by this class of people as a sign of their large contempt for anyone not English.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Blaze: Australian, a white stripe down a horse's face is a blaze. Perhaps a connection between this—either first the other derived—and a blazing tree. Blazing trees can be done as you walk: just slash off the bark with an axe or tomahawk: An explorer's or surveyor's method of marking their tracks.

[Newspaper clipping (undated) attached to A:-

'And we only ride with the flowing tide
As we follow the blazed line back,
So we'll drink the toast of the vanguard host,
And 'The man who blazed the track.'
GLENROWAN.]

OED gives '**blaze**, *n.*² 1. A white spot on the face of a horse or ox. Also of other animals.' (1639).

This term is not Australian.

Blew, blewed up: to dissipate, gamble, or lose money. A variant, no doubt, of the sporting phrase 'to blow out' or 'to get blown out', i.e. to lose or get beaten.

AND gives '**blue**, *v.*¹ Also **blew**. [Br. slang *blue* to spend lavishly (see OED) Not excl. Austral.] *trans.* To squander (money to hand, earnings for a period, etc.) Esp. in the phr. **to blue a cheque**.' (1881).

This term is Australian.

Block - Lose his - Off his: A *gambler's term*: a player who loses calculation of his hand at cards; who misplays or gets confused in his play. By transference - any person who mismanages the business in hand: to muddle, to make mistakes, to act foolishly. Also, to any one mad or silly. Probably derived from cricket: a player going in gets his partner to give him block, i.e. to sight and direct while the blocker holds his bat in front of the wicket. He may take centre,

off, or leg block as his inclinations decide: or—an adaptation of beat—a policeman's beat is a 'block' of streets.

[A & B add: off his head, off his dot, off his onion.]

1. *OED* gives '**block**, *n.* 4. *d. transf.* A head, esp. in *to knock one's block off*. So *off one's block*: angry, insane.' (1635).

This sense is not Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**block**, *n.*³ In the phr. *to do* (or *lose*) *one's block*, (*a*) to lose one's temper.' (1907).

S&O'B's origin is unlikely. In this phrase **block** is used in its standard colloquial sense 'head' rather than the cricket sense shown below.

OED gives '**block** *n.* 20. *Cricket*. The position in which a batsman blocks balls; that in which he holds his bat in front of the wicket before striking, otherwise called the *centre*; hence **block-hole** (or shortly *block*), a mark made in the ground to indicate this position. Also, a stroke of the bat to block a ball.' (1825).

The term is Australian.

Block: *fashionable* On the block *mining*. Use Morris's quotes, dates etc.

[**Morris: Block, on the** (2). Term in mining, fully explained in 'The Miner's Right,' chapters vii. and viii.]

AND gives '**block** *n.*² [Spec. use of **BLOCK** *n.*¹] 2. In the phr. *to do the block*, to promenade along 'the block'.' (1868).

AND gives '**block** *n.*¹ 5. *Mining*. See quotes. 1869 and 1870.' (1858).

1869 '... a claim bounded by right lines ... which are fixed and defined by pegs, posts, or trenches at each angle of the claim.'

This term, in both senses, is Australian.

Block out: *mining term* when miners have driven one or more drives from their shaft and have proved the washdirt payable to the boundaries they proceed to block out – a distinct operation from heading or driving. They cut out all the wash between the drives, leaving earth pillars to support the roof, or else timbering.

Note to Editor: Tom Collins should be the man to give all mining slang and terms.

AND gives '**block**, *v.*¹ *Mining. Obs.* ... In the phr. *to block out*, to excavate (gold-bearing wash-dirt) in sections.' (1862).

This term is Australian in origin.

Bloomer: *slang*—a blunder or mistake. ? Yiddish, I think. See *Stoomer*, which is Yids.

B&L gives '(Australian), prison slang for a mistake.' There are no quotations to illustrate this entry.

OED gives '**bloomer**¹ 3. *slang*. [See quot. 1889.] A very great mistake: chiefly in phr. **to make a bloomer**.' (1889 to 1959).

1889 BARRERE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Bloomer* (Australian), prison slang for a mistake. Abbreviated from the expression 'a blooming error'.

The other citations given by OED are English.

Lighter gives '**bloomer** 2.a. a blunder, a mistake.' (1889 to 1931).cites B&L 1889, US 1906, US 1908, S&O'B 1911, the next citation is 1923.

The Australian Dictionary Centre's card file contains citations from 1905, 1910 and 1929. **Bloomer** was used longest in Britain. The only evidence labelling the term Australian is from B&L which was used generally by S&O'B.

This term is not Australian.

Blow: use Morris's quotes etc.

[Morris: **Blow**, *n.* stroke of the shears in sheep-shearing]

AND gives '**blow** *n.*² *Shearing*. [Spec. use of *blow* firm stroke, recorded in EDD Suppl. as meaning 'the mark left by the shears'.] A stroke of the shears.' (1871).

This term is Australian.

Blowing, boasting, bragging: 'The public house presented a very busy sight, and judging by the bars it seemed that when men were not eating, sleeping or working, they were drinking grog and boasting (or blowing, in colonial parlance) of some feat they had performed or of the merits of some horse, dog or man.' - Grant, *Bush Life*.

Probably derived from the phrase of 'blowing his own trumpet.' Blowing is more accurately applied to boasting about one's self or possessions.

AND gives '**blow**, *v.*² [Chiefly Br. dial. and U.S. *blow* to boast: see OED *v.*¹ 6a.] *intr.* To boast; to exaggerate. Hence **blowing** *vbl. n. and ppl. a.*' (1858).
This term is Australian.

Blow-out: *sporting* - to fail. 'He'll blow out' at the home turn, that is a horse won't last the race out. No doubt a variant of 'blown,' i.e. out of breath. 'Blew out' pp. of blow out: 'He blew out at the distance,'—sporting vernacular.

OED gives '**blow**, *v.*¹ 4. a. To breathe hard, pant, puff. **to blow out**: to be winded. (Cf. sense 8.)' (1513).

Other evidence for the sporting sense 'to fail.' *Bulletin* 17th December 1898. "Jack Shay" writes on Australian slang' ... A horse or man just beaten is said to have "just blew out"; and to have lost money on a man or horse or any

gamble is laconically expressed by "I blewed" my money'. However 'Jack Shay' is Steve O'Brien's pen name.
This term is not Australian.

Blow-out *slang* a banquet, a feed, a gorge.

[only in A & B.]

OED gives '**blow-out 2**. A dinner, supper, or other entertainment for which an abundant supply of food and drink is provided or at which it is consumed; a 'feast' or 'feed'. *colloq.*' (1824).

This term is not Australian.

Bludger: a man who is kept by or lives on the earnings of a prostitute or brothel keeper; a prostitute's fancy man. The word has come to be applied to any person who takes profit without risk or disability or without effort or work. Practically any cadger, loafer, bumner, or beggar who has not the excuse of or inability to work or thief, or infirmity.

[A & B omit: or infirmity.]

AND gives '**bludger** [Survival of Br. slang *bludger*, shortened form of *bludgeoner*. see OED(S.) 1. One who lives on the earnings of a prostitute.' (1856).

This term is Australian.

Bludgers: B&L—*thieves fellows who do not hesitate to use the bludgeon*.

F&H has an almost identical entry to B&L. (1856).
This term is not Australian in this sense.

Bludget: From B&L—a low female thief who decoys her victims into alleyways etc. to rob them - New York Slang Dictionary.

Bludger: English slang—a man who uses violence in robbery: it has some possible connection with the old Dutch word 'Bolletge' a man or master.

As a term for a low female Matsell gives **bludget** A female thief who decoys her victims into alley-ways, or other dark places, for the purpose of robbing them. The *New York Slang Dictionary* is a copy of Matsell's dictionary. Lighter gives **bludget** '(see 1859 quot.)' but only supplies quotations from Matsell and 1866 *Nat. Police Gaz*. This was published by Matsell.

It is difficult to understand why this entry is in S&O'B, particularly when the evidence is from the *New York Slang Dictionary*.

This term is not Australian.

The second sense copied from B&L for the term **bludger** appears to be given as the origin of the term **bludget**.

(The term **bludget** is in Baker 1941. In Baker 1943 he adds 'obsolete'. In 1945 Baker (p.124) gives '*Bludget*, 'a female thief who decoys her victims,' was included by Crowe in his slang dictionary, but it is open to suspicion'. Baker's entry in 1941 appears to be directly copied from S&O'B (a copy of B&L) or Crowe's dictionary 'a female thief who decoys her victims', which is copied from the *Slang Dictionary of New York*.)

Bluey: a coarse blanket in common use throughout the bush. From the circumstance of the blue blanket being often the outside wrapper of the swag, bluey has been extended to mean a swag, whether containing blankets blue or otherwise. Use Morris Tasmanian bluey. Common use—swag—which see.

[**Morris: Bluey**, (2) In the wet wilderness of Western Tasmania a rough shirt or blouse is made of this material, and is worn over the coat like an English smock-frock. Sailors and fishermen in England call it a "Baltic shirt."]

1. *AND* gives '**bluey** 2. A swagman's (usu. blue) blanket.' (1888).

This term is Australian.

2. For Morris's sense of a bush shirt *AND* gives '**bluey** 3. Orig. and in early use chiefly *Tas*. A heavy grey-blue woollen outer garment or coat, protective against cold and wet.' (1890).

3. As the common use for a swag *AND* gives '**bluey** 1.a. A swag (so called because the outer covering was traditionally a blue blanket);' (1878).

Bluffing: *poker playing*; pretending to have a better or worse hand than you really hold.

General finessing, misleading or choking off a person wishing to pump you, i.e. to obtain information or an advantage.

OED gives '**bluff**, v.¹ 2. In the game of *poker*. To impose upon (an opponent) as to the value of one's hand of cards, by betting heavily upon it, speaking or gesticulating or otherwise acting in such a way as to make believe that it is stronger than it is, so as to induce him to 'throw up' his cards and lose his stake, rather than run the risk of betting against the bluffer. (Of U.S. origin.)' (1846).

OED gives '**bluffing**, vbl. n. The action of using bluff; also *attrib.* or as *ppl. a.*' (1850)

This term is not Australian.

Board: meals, rations, food. Most country jobs in Australia are advertised as so much a week with board and lodging. Boarding houses in the city include lodging houses. 'Where do you board?' would mean where do you live?

OED gives '**board**, *n.* 7. *transf.* a. Food served at the table; daily meals provided in a lodging or boarding-house according to stipulation; the supply of daily provisions; entertainment. Often joined with *bed* or *lodging*.' (1465). This term is not Australian.

Board: shearing etc, use Morris.

[**Morris: Board** *n.* term used by shearers. See quotation.

1893 'The Herald' (Melbourne), Dec. 23, p. 6, col. 1:

"'The board' is the technical name for the floor on which the sheep are shorn."]

AND gives '**board**. 1. The part of the floor of a shearing shed upon which the sheep are shorn.' (1857). This term is Australian.

Boiled Rag: variant: a cross refer to 'get his shirt or rag out.' White shirt: see boiled shirt.

B&L gives '**Boiled shirt** (Australian diggers) a clean shirt or "clean biled rag," as Mark Twain puts it, boiling being a primitive way of washing shirts.' and supplies a citation from A.C. Grant's *Bush Life in Queensland* (1881).

This is probably the source for the two entries above, boiled rag coming from Twain's quote, suggesting the term is also American.

This term is not Australian.

Boiled Shirt: *Australian diggings*—a white cotton or linen shirt; no doubt originated in the common wear of flannel, crimean, or other woollen shirts which will, not stand boiling. Sundays and holidays a change to a boiled shirt was fashionable. 'A boiled rag', common. Generally applied to white starched linen shirts.

OED gives '**boiled**, *ppl.* a. 2. Special Combs. **boiled shirt**, (a) U.S. a white linen shirt (see SHIRT *n.* 1); (b) a man's dress shirt.' (1853).

OED gives '**shirt**, *n.* 1. a. **boiled shirt** (U.S.), a white linen shirt as distinguished from a coloured or flannel shirt.' (1854).

This term is not Australian.

Boil-Over: *sporting slang* an upsetting of foregone conclusion or calculations; a surprise or unexpected conclusion. Used generally, such as an unexpected termination of a law-suit or political contest. The 'pot boiled over' is the root of this phrase—the 'pot' being English sporting slang for the first favourite.

[Newspaper clipping 24.4.1897 attached to A:-

SPORTING NOTIONS

Sydney Cup this year was perhaps the greatest 'boil-over' in the history of the race. Almost any price could be got about the winner, Tricolor, . . .]

AND gives '**boilover**. Orig. *Horse-racing*. [Fig. use of *boil over* to overflow: see HOT POT.] a. A surprise result; the unexpected defeat of the favourite.' (1871). OED gives '**boil**, v. 3. fig. a. Said of passions, persons under the influence of passion, their words, etc. Also **to boil over**. Cf. *the blood boils* in 10b.' (1393). OED gives '**pot**, n.¹ 9. c. *Racing*. 'A horse backed for a large amount, a favourite' (*Farmer Slang*).' (1823). This term is Australian.

Boodle: American - B&L - booty, profit, perquisites, plunder', Commonly used with regard to Government contracts etc. by which the public are cheated. Boodlewraith Government. Australian meaning similar.

[A gives: (American - B&L - booty, profit, perquisites, plunder. Australian meaning) B gives: ('American - B&L - booty, profit, perquisites, plunder.'). Australian meaning:]

OED gives '**boodle**¹ 2. b. Money acquired or spent illegally or improperly, esp. in connection with the obtaining or holding of public offices; the material means or gains of bribery and corruption; also, money in general. *slang* (orig. U.S.).' (1883).

B&L is correct when claiming the term is originally American. This term is not Australian.

Boomerang: use Morris.

[**Morris: Boomerang** n. a weapon of the Australian aborigines, described in the quotations. The origin of the word is by no means certain. One explanation is that of Mr. Fraser in quotation, 1892. There may perhaps be an etymological connection with the name *woomera* (q.v.), which is a different weapon, being a throwing stick, that is, an instrument with which to throw spears, whilst the *boomerang* is itself thrown; but the idea of throwing is common to both. In many parts the word is pronounced by the blacks *bummerang*. Others connect it with the aboriginal word for 'wind,' which at Hunter River was *burramaronga*, also *boomori*. In New South Wales and South Queensland there is a close correspondence between the terms for wind and boomerang.]

AND gives '**boomerang** *n.* Formerly also with much variety, as **bomerang**, **bommerang**, **bomring**, **boomareng**, **boomerang**, **bumerang**. [a. Dharuk *bumariny*.] 1. An Aboriginal weapon.' (1790).
This is an Australian term.

Bora: use Morris.

[**Morris: Bora**, *n.* a rite amongst the aborigines of eastern Australia; the ceremony of admitting a young black to the rights of manhood. Aboriginal word.]

AND gives **bora** '[a. Kamilaroi *buuru*.] 1. An initiation ceremony: a ceremony at which an Aboriginal youth is admitted to the privileges of manhood.' (1851).
This is an Australian term.

Borak: clipping from T Collins. Compare with Morris and choose.

Slang chaff, fun, persiflage. Poking borak - which is the common Australian form, means poking fun or 'Taking a rise' out of a person.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

15.4.1897 Bulletin

Dear BULLETIN, - T.D. [In the original clipping the rest of this line is unreadable] slang is a bit too sure about 'barrack' and 'borak.' The latter, he says, 'is undoubtedly a development' of the former. Briefly, to show a doubt. 'Barrikin' (noun) is old English cant for words hard to follow or comprehend. From this, mistaken for a participle, it is quite likely that 'barrack' may have been formed. But then 'barrack,' in its present sense, is of very recent use in Australia - a thing of 12 or 15 years, while 'to poke borak' was old slang about Melbourne 40 years ago. Now a suggestion. At the time I refer to 'borak' was commonly used and understood to be an aboriginal word for 'no.' It may, or may not have been so, but it certainly was so used both by blacks and whites. It may, of course, have come there from Tasmania. Old settlers could settle this. - J.M.]

3.7.1897 (Red Page)

I think 'J M' is right in his suggestion of aboriginal derivation. Certainly the word was in very common use 40 years ago & was then taken as aboriginal. But 'Bole' was the pure negative. 'Bo-rak' carried the idea of good humoured repudiation or denial - something equivalent to our 'gammon!' or 'no dash fear!' or our still more offensive 'Credat Judaeus Apella.' The word in this sense, was so familiar to my own earliest notice that, honestly, the modern expression, 'poking bo-rak,' still grates on my ear as a new-chum incongruity of phrase, aggravated by mispronunciation. - TOM COLLINS.]

[**Morris: Borak**, *n.* aboriginal word of New South Wales, meaning banter, chaff, fun at another's expense. ... Prior to 1870 the word was much in use on the stations in New South Wales. About 1870 Victorian farmers' sons took shearing work there, and brought back the word with them. It was subsequently altered to *barrack* (q.v.).]

AND **borak** [a. Wathawurung *burag*.] '**B.** *n.* 1. Nonsense, rubbish; GAMMON *n.* 2.' (1845). '2. In the phr. **to poke borak** (at a person), to deride.' (1873).

AWE gives '**borak** [Wathawurung, Geelong region, Victoria *burag* 'no, not'.] Originally an adverb in Australian pidgin used, like *baal*, to express negation but now obsolete. The word is now used as a noun meaning 'nonsense' or 'rubbish'. [1839]. The phrase, to poke borak (at a person) means 'to make fun of'. (1876).

This is an Australian term.

Morris' etymology is incorrect as the term originated from an aboriginal language in Victoria, rather than originating in N.S.W. and being transported by shearers to Victoria.

[See also **Barracking** – **Barrack**.]

Boss cockie: in Australian parlance a boss cockie is almost equivalent with gentleman farmer. A boss cockie is often a large capitalist and employer of labour and approaches at times very close to the dignity of squatter.

AND gives '**boss cockie**. 1. A small farmer who has achieved a degree of prosperity (esp. one able to employ labour to supplement his own).' (1879). This term is Australian.

Bossaroo: used by J.B. Stephens as an abbreviation of 'boss kangaroo,' in:-

The Bossaroo superbly posed

Upon a granite stone:- Marsupial Bill.

Same construction - jackeroo, bouveroos - the push which infest Bouverie Street, Melbourne.

[A & B add: *not current* after Melbourne.]

The first three lines of this entry are a copy of entry in B&L.

E.P. also cites B&L

There is no evidence for the term **bouveroos**.

The only evidence for **bossaroo** is from J.B. Stephens.

Botany Bay: use Morris

[**Morris: Botany bay**, *n.* lying to the south of the entrance to Port Jackson, New South Wales, the destination of the first two shiploads of convicts from England. As a matter of fact, the settlement at Botany Bay never existed. The 'First Fleet,' consisting of eleven sail under Governor Phillip, arrived at Botany Bay on January 18, 1788. The Governor finding the place unsuitable for a settlement did not land his people, but on January 25 removed the fleet to Port Jackson. On the next day (January 26) he landed his people at Sydney Cove, and founded the city of Sydney. The name, however, clung to popular imagination, and was used sometimes as the name of Australia. Seventy years after Governor Phillip, English schoolboys used "go to Botany Bay" as an equivalent to "go to Bath." Captain Cook and his naturalists, Banks and Solander, landed at Botany bay, and the name was given (not at first,

when the Bay was marked Stingray, but a little later) from the large number of plants collected there.]

AND gives '**Botany Bay** [The name given by James Cook to a bay south of Sydney, the site of his first landing in Australia.]' (1787).

This term is Australian. However it was used in a derogatory sense in England.

Bottom: *mining* use Morris. A note from T. Collins on 'bottom' and 'false bottom' would be instructive.

[**Morris: Bottom**, v. to get to the bedrock, or clay, below which it was useless to sink (gold mining).]

Joseph Furphy, also known as Tom Collins, spent time in the goldfields. Stephens attempted to use Furphy as an authority on goldfields language. Letters were exchanged by the men concerning the dictionary.

AND gives **bottom**, v. '1. *Mining*. a. *trans*. To excavate (a hole, etc.) to the level of a mineral-bearing stratum.' (1853).

This term is Australian.

Bottom: *market slang* lowest possible prices—possibly derived from mining term as bottom of the market is synonymous with 'bedrock' prices.

This is likely to be an abbreviation of the standard rock-bottom.

OED gives '**rock**, n. ¹9. a. Special combs., **rock-bottom**, bed-rock; also *fig.*, the fundamental or lowest possible level, nadir (see also quot. 1866); also *attrib.* or as *adj.*, lowest possible, unbeatable (of prices, etc.); fundamental, firmly grounded, honest, sound;' (1866).

OED gives '**bottom**, v. 4. c. *intr*. Of prices, trade, etc.: to reach the lowest level. Also with *out*.' (1892).

This term is not Australian.

Boundary Rider: a station hand (either sheep or cattle). His duties are to patrol the station boundaries, seeing that all fences are in good order, watching for ravages of dingoes or blacks, or traces of sheep or cattle stealers, to pluck dead wool from sheep which have died or have been killed. He distributes baits, for dingoes, kangaroos, crows—and also traps and shoots them when possible. He skins any cattle he finds dead, rescues bogged sheep or cattle from swamps or dams: falls dead trees likely to come down and do damage to stock or fences: he reports to the overseer everything of any consequence, and to honest and industrious and skilful stockmen the success of a station is in a great measure due. He works daylight to dark and often on Sundays and is usually paid about £1 per week and rations, but in districts where vermin (dingoes, kangaroos etc.)

abounds he can often by sale of their skins and the rewards for their scalps double and treble his wages.
See Morris, quotes etc. if usable.

AND gives '**boundary** *n.* **B. 2.** Special Comb. **boundary rider**, an employee responsible for maintaining the (outer) fences on a station, or a publicly owned vermin-proof fence.' (1864).

This term is Australian.

Bow-Bow: *theatrical* - on the free list, on the nod: an extension of 'on the bow or nod.'

[A & B add: Literally on the cheap.]

OED gives '**nod**, *n.* **17. on the nod**. **b. slang.** On credit; free, gratis.' (1882).
There is no other evidence for the term **bow-bow** or the phrase **on the bow**.

(The phrase **on the bow-bow** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. Baker did not use the term after 1943.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Bowl You: 'can I bowl you' is equivalent to asking another person to stand treat or 'shout' a drink—Northern Rivers, NSW derived from cricket, a process of inversion by which to score off a man becomes to bowl him.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Box, Boxed: in common use to mix or mixed. 'Box the cards' is a domino phrase. House-painters speak of boxing (mixing) two lots of paint.
Morris for 'box sheep'.

AND gives '**box**, *n.* **3** [prob. f. the phr. *to be in a (the same, wrong) box* to be in a fix: see OED *sb.* **21.**] A mixing of two flocks or herds. Also **box-up**.' (1868 NZ 1870 Aust.)

This term is only Australian in Morris's sense of boxed sheep.

There is no other evidence for the term **box** meaning to mix anything but sheep.

Brandy-Snap: slang: a scab on the nose or face caused by a fall or blow. The implication is that drink is the cause of the injury. Also similarity in colour to that article of confectionery.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(This term is in Baker 1941 & 1943 not in later publications.
E.P. 1967S gives 'Since 1925' and cites Baker 1943.
Green gives: 'brandy-snap'—a scab on one's face.
It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Break: to get the break, to be dismissed: analogous to military practise [sic] of breaking an officer's sword when expelled: a defaulter is a breaker.

A bad break:- B&L give - American - outrage, outbreak, turbulent conduct, to do anything out of the ordinary. A trotter 'breaks' Billiard 'break'.

To break in a horse.

To break it - *thieves* to run.

1. There is no evidence for the phrase **to get the break** defined as to be dismissed
 2. OED gives '**break**, *n.*¹ 8. i. A mistake, blunder; esp. in phr. **a bad break**: a serious mistake. *colloq.* (orig. *U.S.*).' (1884).
 3. For the sense of horse pacing OED gives '**break** *n.*¹ 8. b. in a course of action or time. *spec.* of a trotter or pacer, the act of breaking away from a level stride (cf. BREAK *v.* 38c) (orig. *U.S.*).' (1689).
 4. For a **break** in billiards OED gives '**break**, *n.*¹ 6. a. *Billiards*. A consecutive series of successful strokes; the number of points thus scored. b. Similarly in *Croquet*.' (1865).
 5. For the sense of horse breaking OED gives '**break**, *v.* II 14. a. To reduce to obedience or discipline, tame, train (horses or other animals, also human beings); to subject or habituate *to*. Now also *to break in* 53a.' (1474).
 6. For the thieves sense OED gives '**break**, *v.* To escape from (an enclosed place) by breaking part of the enclosure, as in **to break prison** or **jail**; also **to break bounds**.' (1482).
OED gives '**break**, *v.* VII 38. b. To make a dash; to set off at a run. So **to break back**: to set off running in a reverse direction. *U.S., Austral., and N.Z.*' (1834).
- There is no evidence for these senses being Australian.

Break-Away: Morris and quotes etc

[Morris: **Breakaway**, *n.* (1) A bullock that leaves the herd.
(2) The panic rush of sheep, cattle, or other animals at the sight or smell of water.]

1. AND gives '**breakaway**. 1. An animal that rushes free from a flock or herd.' (1881).
 2. OED gives '**break-away**, **breakaway** 2. *Austral.* a. A panic rush of animals, usually at the sight or smell of water; a stampede.' (1891).
- This term is Australian in both senses.

Breakwind: a shelter of bushes built to shelter a tent or hut. A source of danger when dry as a spark easily ignites them and they burn fiercely.

AND gives '**breakwind. 1.** An Aboriginal shelter.' (1832).
This term is Australian.

Brewer's jockey: Melbourne—a man who rides about with the driver of a brewer's waggon helping him to load and unload on the chance of a share of the drinks which fall to the lot of a brewer's man.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **brewer's jockey** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. Baker writes in *The Australian Language* (1945 p133) 'Stephens and O'Brien tell us that a brewer's jockey is 'a man who rides about with the driver of a brewer's wagon, helping him load and unload on the off-chance of a share of the drinks which fall to the lot of a brewer's man.'"

E.P. 1967S gives C. 20. Baker.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Brick: a regular brick - a good fellow. Ellis Newton had a silver brick which he claimed was presented to him by the citizens of Broken Hill, but he said he was not a brick because the Broken Hill citizens said a brick was burnt, the difference was that he had to be burnt yet.

[A & B give: a regular brick - a good fellow. Ellis Newton had a silver brick which he claimed was presented to him by the citizens of Broken Hill, but he said he was not a brick because a brick was burnt, the difference was that he had to be burnt yet.]

OED gives '**brick, n.**¹ **6. fig. (slang or colloq.)** A good fellow, one whom one approves for his genuine good qualities.' (1840).
This term is not Australian.

Brickfielder: obsolescent, use Morris.

[**Morris: Brickfielder n.** (1) Originally a Sydney name for a cold wind, blowing from the south and accompanied by blinding clouds of dust; identical with the later name for the wind, the *Southerly Buster* ...

(2) The very opposite to the original meaning,—a severe hot wind. In this inverted sense the word is now used, but not frequently, in Melbourne and in Adelaide, and sometimes even in Sydney ...]

1. *AND* gives '**brickfielder 1.** *Hist.* In Sydney, a sudden squally wind from the south, bringing relief at the end of a hot day but sometimes characterized also by an accompanying dust-storm: see quot. 1835.' (1829) There are only two citations after 1865. The last two citations, 1891 and 1915, are written in historical contexts, not as examples of current use.

2. *AND* gives '**brickfielder 2.** Elsewhere (but see quot. 1851) a hot wind, usu. from the north and accompanied by a dust-storm.' (1840 to 1975).

Both senses of this term are Australian. Only the first sense was obsolescent before this dictionary was being prepared.

Brief: *thieves* any ticket, letter, or note. Brief snatchers are race-course thieves who snatch betting tickets from the grasp of successful betters and collect their winnings. They are often in league with rascally bookmakers and divide the proceeds with them; the bookmakers bind themselves only to pay on presentation of the ticket, and the fact of a person telling him that someone has snatched their ticket brings forth the retort that they have already paid out on said ticket.

[A & B give: 'of a person saying that'.]

OED gives '**brief, n. II. 4. a.** A letter, dispatch, note. *Obs.*' (1572).

OED gives '**brief, n. II. 4b.** Writing, something written. *Obs.*' (1786).

OED gives '**brief, n. II. 4c.** In various slang uses (see quotes.).'

1860 *HOTTEN Dict. Slang* (ed. 2) 105 *Brief*, a pawnbroker's duplicate.

1874 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 97 *Brief*,...a raffle card, or a ticket of any kind.

1879 *Macmillan's Mag.* XL. 501/2, I..took a brief (ticket) to London Bridge.

1889 *BARRÈRE & LELAND Dict. Slang* I. 180/1 *Brief* (prison), a note or letter... (Thieves), a ticket, pocket-book, pawnbroker's duplicate.

1939 H. Hodge *Cab, Sir?* xv. 217 It [sc. a cab-driver's licence] is also called the 'brief'.

1962 *John o' London's* 25 Jan. 82/2 A policeman's warrant card is his *brief*. There is no Australian evidence for any sense of this term.

Bridge-Water: *thieves slang* Australian. An imitation of forgery either of a bank note, cheque, or other promise to pay. Generally tailors' advertisements colorably imitating notes or cheques are used. *General meaning*—any letter, jewellery or other article used for fraudulent purposes is alluded to as a bridge-water.

B&L give: Bridge - a cheating trick at cards by which any particular card may be cut by previously curving it. To bridge a person or throw him over the bridge, is in a general sense to deceive him by betraying the confidence he has reposed in you.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Broke: hard up, insolvent: probably derived from military custom or banking: break the bank at Monaco: an officer expelled from a regiment had his sword broken: punishment for swindling at cards, defaulting in debts of honor, or any action unbecoming an officer and gentleman.

OED gives '**broke**, *ppl. a. 3. slang. a.* In predicative use = **BROKEN** *ppl. a. 7; penniless;*' (1665).

This term is not Australian.

Broker: a man without money: simply broke, would perhaps mean that for the time being he was without money on him: dead broke, that he was without money at all. Dead motherless broke would mean without a chance of getting any money. Stony-broke seems to be a compound of hard-up and broke, stony being comparative of hard.

AND gives '**broker**. *Obs.* A bankrupt; one who is 'broke'.' (1882 to 1915). This term is Australian.

Brown-Joe: equivalent to saying 'nonsense' or 'I don't believe you.' Cockney rhyming slang for 'no.'

B&L give '**Brown Joe** (rhyming slang), no.'

F&H give: '**BROWN JOE**, *intj.* (rhyming slang).—No. Cf., **BROWN BESS** for 'yes'.'

There is no Australian evidence for this term in the sense of 'nonsense'.

In *The Australian Language*, Baker claims the term **brown joe**, defined as 'to understand,' or 'in the know' was later recorded as war slang by Gavin Long.

Brownie: sweet cake made by shearing or station cooks: probably from its color through the addition of 'brown' or ration sugar. Brownie is a culinary 'extra' and a cook usually has to be able to bake bread and brownie. Damper very rarely appears at a shearer's table now-a-days.

AND gives '**brownie**, *n.*¹ 1. A sweetened currant bread.' (1883). This term is Australian.

Brumby: compare Morris with Aboriginal or R. P. clips. [R.P.—Red Page]

[**Morris: Brumby, Broombie** (spelling various) *n.* a wild horse. ... *booramby* is given as meaning "wild" on the river Warrego in Queensland. The use of the word seems to have spread from the Warrego and the Balowne about 1864. Before that date, and in other parts of the bush ere the word came to them, wild horses were called *clear-*

skins or *scrubbers*, whilst *Yarraman* (q.v.) is the aboriginal word for a quiet or broken horse. A different origin was, however, given by an old resident of New South Wales, to a lady of the name of Brumby, viz. "that in the early days of that colony, a Lieutenant Brumby, who was on the staff of one of the Governors, imported some very good horses, and that some of their descendants being allowed to run wild became the ancestors of the wild horses of New South Wales and Queensland." Confirmation of this story is to be desired.]

[There is an enquiry in the *Bulletin* Red Page, August 7 1897. What is the origin of term 'broomies' or 'brumbies' applied to wild horses? Some years ago, I think, 'Bulletin' said it is derived from an entire and mares that had broken away from Cox's 'Broombie' station. This, I lately learned, has been denied by the Messrs. Cox. Another more recent derivation was from Baramba station in the Maryborough (Q) district; but the evidence did not seem satisfactory. A.L.]

There are two entries for **brumby** in the base text.

The origin of the term is still unknown.

AAWE gives '**brumby** Also **brumbee**, and **brumbie**. The origin of this word, meaning wild horse, is obscure. It may possibly come from a language in southern Queensland or northern New South Wales.'

Brumby, Brumbies: wild horses, the progeny of stallions and mares who have either been lost or outlawed. A vicious horse which is untameable or useless is often turned adrift or outlawed. Brumbies are often shot wholesale for the sake of their hides. It is the exception to catch and break a pure-bred brumby to be of any value.

AND gives '**brumby** Also **brombie**, **brumbie**, **brummy**. [Of unknown origin.] 1. A wild horse.' (1880).

This term is Australian.

The origin of this term may be from the Irish 'bromach' which is used for a young colt. Dymphna Lonergan in *An Irish centric view of Australia* writes 'Its plural is *bromaigh*, pronounced 'brummy.'

Brusher: to abscond, to run away, to avoid. *Common use* - to depart and leave debts unpaid. Synonymous with *slope*. *Painter's slang* to give work brusher is to either miss it or else to slum it over quickly and carelessly.

1. AND gives '**brusher** *n.*¹ *Obs* [Perh. *f.* *brush*, *v.* to decamp.] In the phr. **to give** (someone) **brusher**, to defraud (someone); to abscond, avoid.' (1878—1934).

OED gives '**brush**, *v.*¹ 3. *intr.* To burst away with a rush, move off abruptly, be gone, decamp, make off.' (1690).

This sense is Australian.

2. OED gives '**brush**, v.² 3. *to brush (a thing) over*. to paint or wet its surface with a brush; to paint lightly; also *fig.*' (1628).
This sense is not Australian.

Brushing: A horse that interferes in his stride by knocking and injuring his fetlocks is said to brush. *Bush slang* - a person in a temper talking wildly and irrationally is said to be brushing. By transference from Horse definition.

1. OED gives '**brush**, n.² 9. A graze, esp. on a horse's leg. (cf BRUSH v.² 6.)' (1710).

OED gives '**brush**, v.² 6. To injure or hurt by grazing; said *esp.* of a horse grazing his fetlock with the shoe or hoof of the fellow foot. Also *absol.*' (1691).
This sense is not Australian.

2. There is no evidence for the 'bush slang' sense of the term.

Buck: Buckjumping: Morris notes and quotes revised say by Ogilvie should answer.

[**Morris: Buck**, v. Used "*intransitively* of a horse, to leap vertically from the ground, drawing the feet together like a deer, and arching the back. Also *transitively* to buck off." (O.E.D.) Some say that this word is not Australian, but all the early quotations of *buck* and cognate words are connected with Australia. The word is now used freely in the United States.

Bucker, Buck-jumper, n. a horse given to bucking or buckjumping.]

AND gives '**buck**, v. [Abbrev. of BUCKJUMP v.]' (1848). '**buckjump**, v. 1. *intr.* Of a horse: to leap with head down, legs drawn together, and back arched in an attempt to throw the rider.' (1838).

AND gives '**bucker**. 1. BUCKJUMPER.' (1853).

AND gives '**buckjumper**. A horse which buckjumps (habitually).' (1838)
All terms are Australian.

Buckley's Chance: common—to say a person has Buckley's chance is to say their chance is very small or remote or that they have no chance at all.

The name Buckley occurs again in Australian slang: 'Who struck Buckley?' is a phrase equivalent to 'What's up?' 'What's the matter?'

[Newspaper clipping 12.6.18?? attached to A:-

Buckley's Chance!

(In this article there is a hole, resulting in some missing words. These are marked with ...)

WRITES M'GUIRE, from Melbourne, to THE BULLETIN:-

Seven weeks have passed since BUCKLEY, the Melb. Safe-robber, made an assertion from the dock at Melb. Criminal Court which cast upon Vic. Penal Department a slur of cruel and barbarous injustice. The allegation was one which BUCKLEY averred would be borne out by a reference to the books of the

department; but, though such investigation could be easily made in ten minutes by a small boy at 10s. a week, so far nothing has been published either in support or disproof of the prisoner's word. BUCKLEY was accused of safe-breaking, and, in pleading guilty, he said that his whole career of crime extending over 12 years, was the outcome of a sentence for assault and robbery he received when a boy of 17. BUCKLEY claimed that he was found guilty of this crime, and was sentenced to five years and three floggings of 20 lashes each. He had served two years and had gone through the torture of two flagellations when evidence was forthcoming in proof of his innocence. The Govt. of the day kindly granted him a free-pardon, magnanimously remitted the remaining scourging, and told BUCKLEY, the man with the scored back, he might go. No mention of compensation was made, and though BUCKLEY made efforts to obtain some redress for the humiliation he had passed through, all he could get was an ... the Queen could do no wrong and a snuffling ... To lead a pious life. That is BUCKLEY'S story. ... a lie told for purposes of mitigating his sentence ... Solid slab of fact, is questionable, but the ... Vic. Penal Dept. on the subject makes it possible that BUCKLEY told the truth. If so, the law has been the big brute it usually is, but a bigger ass. If what BUCKLEY'S back scarred BUCKLEY'S mind ten times as seriously, and, having transformed the boy into the tiger, refused to give the tiger the chance of becoming a man. A few issues ago there was an inquiry on the 'Red Page' of THE BULLETIN, asking for the origin of the expression 'BUCKLEY'S chance.' How does this stand in the competition? ...

AND gives **Buckley's**. 'In full **Buckley's chance (choice, hope, show)**, A forlorn hope; no prospect whatever.' (1895). All the early citations are from the *Bulletin*.

Hotten gives '**Buckley**, "Who struck BUCKLEY?" a common phrase used to irritate Irishmen. The story is that an Englishman having struck an Irishman named Buckley, the latter made a great outcry, and one of his friends rushed forth screaming, "Who struck Buckley?" "I did," said the Englishman, preparing for the apparently inevitable combat. "Then," said the ferocious Hibernian, after a careful investigation of the other's thews and sinews, "then, sarve him right."

Hotten gives this term from the mid 1800s.

The AND files include a citation from the *Evening News* July 11 1908. "Who Struck Buckley?"

... 'Who Struck Buckley?' which in camps and shearing-sheds has been almost universally accepted as Australian slang, applied to anything mysterious, has nothing to do with a wild man among the aborigines, but came from Ireland a century ago. Buckley received a blow in a North of Ireland faction fight, and his friends, being anxious to take his part, asked the question. In Australia, to make the query fit a lost man the word 'struck' is given the meaning of find.'

Wilkes also cites a bush song (1885) and Collins' *Such is Life* (1903), and it is possible it was used more extensively in Australia than elsewhere.

Who struck buckley is not Australian but **buckley's chance** is Australian.

Bug: *thieves* Australian city - a drunken man.

There is no other evidence for this term. The use of the term **bug hunting** (see below) makes it likely that this term was in use.

Bug blinding: painters for limewashing. B&L give *Army* for same thing.

[not in A & B.]

E.P. 1870 – 1930. 'Military for whitewashing'.
This term is not Australian.

Bug hunting: is searching drunken men who are asleep in parks and elsewhere.

F&H give '**BUG-HUNTER**, *subs.* (thieves').—A thief who plunders drunken men.
The same as BUGGER, SENSE 1.'
This term is not Australian.

Bug Hunters: B&L give (a breast pin. American and English thieves) a pickpocket who makes a speciality of matching away breast pins, studs, etc.

[B&L give 'Bug (American and English thieves), a breast-pin; bughunter, a pickpocket, or one who makes a specialty of snatching away breast-pins, studs, &c.']

Matsell gives '**BUG** A breast-pin.' '**BUGGER** A pickpocket; a buggsman.'
This term is not Australian.

Bulling: 1—In mining or blasting, a hole being drilled, by utilizing the peculiar properties of dynamite a large cavity may be formed at the bottom of the bore allowing the powder to lie in closer bulk instead of being distributed up a large length of bore, thus increasing its power.

2—to add cold water to the tea or grog to dilute it –

3—to talk illogically or ignorantly: wandering in your mind: 'You're only bulling.' -Bulling in the third instance may take its meaning from the restlessness of cows when they are—as it is vulgarly called—bulling---

in the second instance from the admixture of two separate things such as water and grog: dilution, mixing—

in the first the enlargement of the cavity to contain the bulk of powder or other explosive is no doubt a vulgar adaptation of the mating of cattle.

1. *AND* gives **bull**, v.¹ *Mining*. 'See quot. 1958.' (1889).

1958 *Bull*, to enlarge the bottom of a drilled hole to increase the explosive charge.

2. *AND* gives '**bull**, v.² To adulterate.' (1891).

These senses of the term are Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**bull** n.⁴ 2. A self-contradictory proposition; in mod. use, an expression containing a manifest contradiction in terms or involving a ludicrous inconsistency unperceived by the speaker. Now often with epithet *Irish*; but the word had been long in use before it came to be associated with Irishmen.' (1640)

OED gives the etymology as '[Of unknown origin; cf. OF. *boul*, *boule*, *bole* fraud, deceit, trickery; mod. Icel. *bull* 'nonsense'; also ME. *bull* BUL 'falsehood', and BULL v.³, to befool, mock, cheat.'

(No foundation appears for the guess that the word originated in 'a contemptuous allusion to papal edicts', nor for the assertion of the 'British Apollo' (No. 22. 1708) that 'it became a Proverb from the repeated Blunders of one Obadiah Bull, a Lawyer of London, who liv'd in the Reign of K. Henry the Seventh'.)].

This sense of the term is not Australian.

Bullock, Bullocked, Bullocker: 1—to bullock, to work hard and persistently. Bullocked, pp.—a similar meaning. A boss who bullocked his men would always be urging them to greater efforts either with oaths or curses. A bullocker is a hard steady worker, often a 'rusher', i.e. a man who sets the pace for a gang.

Derived no doubt from bullock haulage and driving, from the steady tugging of the bullocks and the very common brutality of their drivers.

1. *AND* gives '**bullock** v. 1. *intr.* To work tirelessly (like a bullock). Freq. as *pr. pple.* Also *trans.*' (1875).

2. *AND* gives **bullocked** within citations for the verb **bullock**.

3. *AND* gives '**bullocker** *Obs.* A bullock driver.' (1889).

These terms are Australian.

Bullock Puncher: see Bullocky.

AND gives '**bullock puncher.** A bullock driver.' (1859).

This term is Australian.

Bullocky: the driver of a team of bullocks, and abbreviation of bullock driver. Variants: bullock puncher, oxen persuader.

AND gives '**bullocky**, n. 2. A bullock driver.' (1869).

This term is Australian.

Bumper: *Sydney slang:* a cigarette or cigar stump or butt. Bumper shooters are the loafers who pick up these bumpers to smoke. It has been asserted that these gathered up bumpers are remanufactured into cigars, tobacco and cigarettes of a cheap kind. 'O.P.B.'- 'old picked bumpers' has a limited use, applied to cheap cigars etc.

AND gives '**bumper**, *n.* [Of unknown origin.] 1. A cigarette butt.' (1899). This term is Australian.

There is evidence of **bumper shooters** within entries in *AND*. This entry contains the earliest record of the term.

(The term **bumper shooters** is in Baker 1953 *Australia Speaks*. E.P. cites Baker 1953.)

Bunce: money or goods; has a meaning almost akin to 'boodle.' Generally used though as money. Sometimes spelt Bunts.

OED gives '**bunce** *slang.* Money; gains; extra profit or gain, bonus; something to the good.' 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* 278 If Cards came no better. Oh! oh! I shall lose all my *Buns*. 1812 J.H.VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Bunce*, money.

This term was first recorded with this spelling in Australia by Vaux.

Bundle: *sporting slang:* for a competitor to collapse or 'turn it up' is called dropping his bundle. It has a vulgar derivation from the fact of cowards being said to perform a natural function through fright. The sense of bundle has more the meaning of funk or fright than of inability.

[Newspaper clipping 27.11.1897 attached to A:-

In matches and competitions he had a remarkable record, and, though he is suspected of having the least little bundle all the same, his record of victories argues for a courage equal to his dash. On Monday week, at Adelaide, he beat Green in the mile, but was beaten by him in the five and ten miles. Green should beat Barden now, however, for the ..wo...er is not acclimatised yet. Barden rides a Swift cycle with Dunlop tyres.

AND gives '**bundle** 2. In the phr. **to drop one's bundle**, to go to pieces.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Bung: aboriginal derivation and use from Morris text and quotes.

[**Morris: Bung, to go**, *v.* ... In parts of Australia, in New South Wales and Queensland, the word "bung" is an aboriginal word meaning "dead," and even though the slang word be of English origin, its frequency of use in Australia may be

due to the existence of the aboriginal word, which forms the last syllable in *Billabong* (q.v.), and in the aboriginal word *millbung* blind, literally, eye-dead.]

AND gives '**bung** a. Orig. *Austral. pidgin*. Also **boang**, **boung** and formerly **bong**. [a. *Jagara ban*.] 1. Obs. Dead. Also in the (orig. pidgin) phr. **to go bung**, to die.' (1841 to 1887). '2. fig. a. Bankrupt, in financial ruin. b. Incapacitated, exhausted, broken. Esp. in the phr. **to go bung**, to fail, to collapse.' (1885).

This term was no longer being used in the sense of 'dead' at the time of compilation of the material. However, the other sense which Morris referred to was **to go bung**, to fail, to become bankrupt' is a development of the earlier sense. This sense has been in use since 1885 to the present.

This term is Australian in both senses.

There are two entries for Bung in the base text.

Bung: a nickname for publicans: by extension, to the whole personnel of the drink trade.

OED gives '**bung**, *n.*¹ 3. b. A brewer, or landlord of a public house. Also, the brewing interest (as in politics); hence *attrib.* or as *adj.*, favouring the brewers or their interests in politics.' (1860).

This term is not Australian.

Bunk: *Australian slang*: to do a bunk—to clear out—to do a guy—make one's self scarce.

OED gives '**bunk**, *n.*³ In slang phr. **to do a bunk**: to make an escape; to depart hurriedly.' (1870).

This term is not Australian.

Bunk: bed, sleeping place.

OED gives '**bunk**, *n.*¹ . a. A box or recess in a ship's cabin, railway-carriage, lodging-house, etc., serving for a bed; a sleeping-berth. Freq. one of two or more beds arranged in a tier.' (1758).

This term is not Australian.

Bun-Struggle: a tea meeting or tea party. B&L give: muffin-worry, an old ladies' tea party *Hotten*.

A humorous variant of the above, but which is not in general use is 'tea and tattle party,' applied to afternoon teas or tea meetings. Tea meetings are a means of raising money for church or charitable purposes favoured by the 'Unco'

Guid' They are a very mild and harmless form of dissipation, and have attracted the notice of humourous writers. (They are possibly of American origin.)

B&L gives '**bun-struggle** or **worry** (army) a tea meeting; an entertainment to which benevolent souls occasionally invite the soldiers in a garrison, but which has generally smaller attractions for them than the canteen or publichouse.'

F&H give '**bun-struggle** or **bun-worry** – (military) A tea meeting given to soldiers.'

OED gives '**bun**, *n.*² **2. Comb., bun-struggle, -worry = bun-fight.**' (1889). This citation is from B&L.

There is no evidence of American origin, the term is not Australian.

Burnt-Feed: the young grass which springs up on land over which bush fires have passed. Kangaroos and cattle both are fond of burnt feed, which is no doubt—by reason of the revivifying effects of the fire on pasture land -sweeter.

AND gives **burnt** '3. In the collocation **burnt feed**, new and succulent growth following a fire.' (1826 to 1886).

This was obsolete before the material was compiled.

This term is Australian.

Burnt Stuff: *miners* use Morris.

[**Morris: Burnt-stuff**, *n*, a geological term used by miners.]

AND gives **burnt** '4. *Mining. Obs.* In the collocation **burnt stuff**.' (1852 and 1853). There are only two citations in AND.

This term is Australian in origin, but there is little evidence of its use. Morris used the 1853 quotation from *Lady's Visit to Gold Diggings* which is also used as a citation by AND.

This term was obsolete before this material was compiled.

Burst: a drinking or gambling bout, a period of debauchery. To go on the burst, i.e. to go on the loose: possibly derived from southerly burster. B&L give: lively pace, smart race, spurt. Sometimes written 'bust,' which is a variant derived from 'busting up a cheque,' which is no uncommon practice with bush workers who are paid with a cheque at the end of the season or year. 'Busting a cheque' is not necessarily going on the debauch or booze. A man might burst up his cheque with the store-keeper. The sense of bust is to break up or cash the cheque, but is mostly understood as leaving the cheque with the publican till he says it is spent. Bust is in the bush commonly used for break: bust up a log, bust up the show, bust your nose etc.

[A & B add: Burst also to mark a score over the number of the marble you hold at devils pool (Billiards).]

OED gives '**burst**, *n.* 7. *colloq.* A prolonged bout of drunkenness, a 'spree'. Also a big feed, a 'blow out'. (See also BUST *n.*³) (1849 to 1881).
 OED gives '**bust**, *n.*³ *colloq.* and U.S. = BURST *n.* *spec.* 'a frolic; a spree' (Bartlett); cf BURST *n.* 7. Phrs. **to go on the bust, to go a bust.**' (1764).
 AND gives '**burst**, *n.*¹ [Br. dial. *burst* an outburst of drinking: see EDD.] 1. A drinking bout, esp. in the phr. **on the burst.** See also BUST *n.*' (1852 to 1942).
 AND gives '**bust** *n.* [Br. dial. *bust* var. of BURST *n.*¹; see OEDS *sb.*³ a.] A drinking bout. Freq. in the phr. **on the bust.**' (1865 to 1963).
 Lighter gives '**bust** *n.* 2.a. a drinking spree.' (1840 to 1919).
 The term **burst** and variant **bust** were standard but survived longest in Australia.

AND gives '**cheque** 2. Special Comb. **cheque bu(r)sting** *ppl. a.*, spending freely, engaged in a spree.' (1910).
 S&O'B are incorrect in saying the variant **bust** was derived from **busting up a cheque** because this variant was in use from 1764. The phrase **busting up a cheque** is first recorded in 1910.

Burster, Southerly: Or Burster: a sudden and short wind storm from the southward, oftentimes amounting to a gale. Sometimes bringing rain, other times only serving to cloud the atmosphere with dust.

AND gives '**burster**, *n.*² *Obs.* [Shortened form of SOUTHERLY BURSTER.] A strong sudden wind, esp. from the south.' (1854 to 1903).
 This term is Australian.

Bush: Use Morris and quotes.

[**Morris: Bush**, *n.*, ... "Woodland, country more or less covered with natural wood; applied to the uncleared or untilled districts in the British Colonies which are still in a state of nature, or largely so, even though not wooded; and by extension to the *country* as opposed to the *towns*." ('O.E.D.')]]

OED gives '**bush**, *n.*¹ 9. a. (Recent, and probably a direct adoption of the Dutch *bosch*, in colonies originally Dutch.) Woodland, country more or less covered with natural wood: applied to the uncleared or untilled districts in the former British Colonies which are still in a state of nature, or largely so, even though not wooded; and by extension to the *country* as opposed to the *towns*. For U.S. examples see *D.A.*, *D.A.E.*' (1780).
 AND gives '**bush** *A. n.* Freq. with **the**. 1. Natural vegetation of any kind; a tract of land covered in such vegetation.' (1790).
 This term is not Australian but it is of special significance to Australia.

Bush-Lawyer: a nickname given to litigious persons or to those who have a real or assumed knowledge of the law. A bush lawyer is more often a person who is for getting involved in lawsuits: relying on his own skill in the law, he usually comes out a loser. Other bush lawyers there are—on diggings, bush townships, etc.—who by familiarity and long experience are quite qualified to and often do puzzle and beat the lawyer proper. In mining laws and tenure; trespass, stock, station and travelling; brands; impounding; timber getting and minor points of land law these bush lawyers can often give sound and reliable points and advice.

AND gives '**bush lawyer. 1.** One who parades an only fancied knowledge of the law; one who 'lays down the law'.' (1835).

This term is Australian.

Bushed: *Australian.* From B&L: 'Desmard was on these occasions always accompanied by one of the boys, for John feared that he might get bushed.' - A. C. Grant, 'Bush Life in Queensland.'

To lose one's way: a bushman in city who had lost his way would say he got bushed. Accurately, to be lost in the bush.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

16.1.97 *Bulletin*

Is it possible for anyone who has never been 'bushed' to understand the awful significance of the term? Every Australian, at least, knows what 'lost in the bush' means, but one who has never experienced the reality cannot fully comprehend the horror of the sensations—sensations, too, such as are probably felt in no other situation that life provides.

N.S.W.

W.M. Fleming

17.7.97 Red Page of the *Bulletin*

17.—Habits of Persons Lost in the BushThe 'bushed' horseman travels in a circle either way, but I believe the footman always turns to the left.—R. Williams, Gilgunnia.

AND gives '**bushed 1.** Lost in the bush.' (1844).

This term is Australian.

Bushman, Bushmanship: bushman is a word of wide meaning. The most widely accepted sense of bushman is that of bush worker, and a good bushman may be a boundary driver, or drover, able to cut and brand, to wash sheep, to fall, split, saw fence or build with the local timber, to track or assist surveyors; to clear, grub, and stump new ground; to excavate dams, to shear, plough, strip, thrash and a score of other things which are all more or less a bushman's work. In a city sense, bushman is used to describe the dwellers in the 'bush' or country districts, but its use in this sense is mostly limited to Australian purists: the vernacular has idioms such as 'The Man from the Wire Fence,' 'Country bloke' or 'splaw' or 'Splodger,' 'Cockle,' 'Squatter,' 'Bullock-Puncher,' etc, etc., all of which have served to cut 'bushman' out and give sub-class names to the genus 'bushman.'

AND gives '**bushman** 1. One skilled and experienced in travelling through bush country and able to do so without getting lost or into difficulty.' (1825). '4. A rural employee, esp. an (unskilled) labourer able to work in a range of capacities.' (1843)

AND gives '**bushmanship**. The ability to travel through, or live in, inhospitable country, esp. that which is unfamiliar and unsettled, without getting into difficulty.' (1848).

Both terms are Australian.

Bushranger: use Morris.

[**Morris: Bushranger**, *n.* one who ranges or traverses the bush, far and wide; an Australian highwayman; in the early days usually an escaped convict.]

AND gives **bushranger**. '1. One who engages in armed robbery, escaping into, or living in, the bush in the manner of an outlaw; orig. an escaped convict subsisting in the bush, often by resort to robbery.' (1801). '2. *Obs.* One skilled in travelling through the bush.' (1805 to 1843).

This term is Australian in both senses.

Bushwhackers B&L give as West Indian—men who squat alive in the bush leading an idle useless existence. Australian, applied to uncouth, rawboned or unmannerly country people. 'A regular bushwhacker' would be a coarse and unpolished bushman. I have a recollection that the word is from the Slave States: police who searched for fugitive slaves—beating the cane brakes as if game hunting.

AND gives '**bushwhacker**. [U.S. *bushwhacker* backwoodsman.] 1. One who lives in the country (as opposed to the town).' (1896).

Lighter gives '**bushwhacker** *n.* 1. a backwoods man.' (1809 to 1894).

This term is U.S. but has survived longest in Australia.

Busk, Busking: *Australian sense:* Street instrumentalists or vocalists are called buskers - the profession busking. B&L give as hawking goods about bar rooms and taverns. The Austral is theatrical. Sock and busking, a theatrical phrase. Busking being illegitimate outdoor or tent shows.

OED gives '**busk**, *v.*² 3. *a. slang.* See quotes. (But perhaps this is a distinct word.) Hence **busking** *vbl. n.* and *ppl. a.* Now usu., to play music or entertain in the streets, etc.' (1851).

This term is not Australian.

Butcher: *Adelaide*, gradually spreading a glass of beer containing about two-thirds of a pint is in Adelaide commonly called a butcher. German origin 'becher'

a beaker or kind of lidded drinking jug. Large German colonization under auspices of Queen Adelaide took place about Adelaide, and no doubt the German choice of an idiom to represent a large drink of beer would be becher.

Adelaide slang for a large glass of beer about two-thirds of a pint. Morris gives from men of a certain butchery drinking same? Believe from 'Bechere' German for a beaker or large drinking vessel: beacher it is pronounced, and Adelaide having a lot of German colonists favoured and protected by Queen Adelaide, it is more likely that butcher is a corruption of 'Bechere.'

AND gives '**butcher**, *n.* ¹ S.A. [Prob. a. G. *becher* convivial drinking vessel, but see quot. 1956.] A glass or measure of beer; for size, see quotes. 1908 and 1984.' (1889).

1956 And what is called a 'lady's waist' in some parts of the country is generally known as a 'butcher'. This originated in bygone days when workers from the abattoirs came unwashed to the pubs after their day's toil. A proportion of drinking mugs was kept separate for them, and a mob of slaughtermen would announce themselves as 'butchers' and be given those mugs.

1908 He gives away a good few of what they call 'butchers of beer', which is a long, wide glass, holding more than a pint.

1984 The South Australian six ounce (170 ml.) has Australia's oddest glass name, a 'butcher'.

This term is South Australian.

The origin given by S&O'B is more likely than that given by Morris. It is not possible to comment with certainty on S&O'B's accuracy on the size of the glass, but evidence suggests it is a six ounce glass rather than 'two thirds of a pint.'

Butcher's Shop: *vulgar slang* a wedding. The phrase is 'a new butcher's shop opened' to denote a wedding happening.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Buttoner: B&L give button as *old cant* a shilling, now a bad one *streets* a decoy or sham purchaser.

Australian, the confederates of 'gees' (assistants who 'gee up' the mugs) of roulette, hazard, thimble-rigging or other 'spielers.' Possibly from 'buttonholing,' a method of holding a man by the coat lapel while you strive to talk to or do business with him.

AND gives '**buttoner**. *Obs.* [Survival of Br. slang *buttoner* accomplice, decoy: see OED *button sb.* 9 and *buttoner* 3.] The accomplice of a confidence man.' (1882-1918.) This term was used later in Australia than Britain.

C

Cabbage Garden: a New South Wales nickname for Victoria. The phrase is credited to the late Sir John Robertson, a New South politician of more vigour than polish. Sir John Robertson was one of the old Sydney politicians who had a full and bitter contempt for anything Victorian. He was in fact the head and front of the interprovincial jealousy which only received its quietus from the Federation movement. His reason for so calling Victoria was no doubt a retort to somebody who was either extolling Victorian policy or praising its products. At the time a large trade was carried on in the export of cabbages and cauliflowers from Melbourne to Sydney, in fact the Sydney market was almost wholly supplied with these vegetables from Victoria.

[B substitutes Federal for Federation.

A reads ... in fact the Sydney market was almost wholly (supplied) and still is to a certain extent supplied with these vegetables from Victoria.]

[Sir John Robertson (1816-1891) Member of Legislative Assembly for most of the period between 1865 and 1886. Premier of NSW 1860-1861, 1868-1870, 1875-1877, 1877, 1885-1886.]

AND gives '**cabbage garden**. A nickname for Victoria.' (1882).

There are two explanations for this nickname, the one explained in this material, that Victoria grew cabbages and cauliflowers for export to the other colonies is also backed up by a *Bulletin* citation in *AND*:

1905 In Perth .. vegetables .. are cheaper than and equal to those I've met in Victoria the cabbage state.

The other explanation is given in a citation by Michael Davitt in *AND*:

1898 Victoria ... is referred to colloquially by people in sister colonies as 'the cabbage garden' owing to its relative smallness of area.

This term is Australian. It seems likely S&O'B's origin is correct, as Davitt was not a resident in Australia, but he did visit in 1898.

Cabbage-tree hat Mob: Hats in the Colonies often signify much. As the 'cabbage-tree' hat was the almost peculiar wear of the 'Larrikin' class of the Fifties, so the Kossuth or California—or as it ultimately came to be known—the Yankee hat was the particular wear of the Sydney larrikins, Seventies to Eighties. The Yankee hat was a soft felt hat, high of crown and wide of brim. In the late Eighties the fashion with the larrikin was a 'gun' (literally thief) hat, also soft felt, but of smaller crown and brim. In the Nineties the fashion is again altering, 'and the 'straw cady' (boaters) with very showy ribbons are becoming the prevailing fashion. In fact, the quasi-rough or 'respectable-larrikin' youths, who are the main army of 'barrackers' at sports and street corners, are often spoken and written of as the 'straw-hat push.' Cabbage tree hats are made exactly the same as most straw hats. The leaves of the cabbage palm are split into filaments of varying fineness according to the class of plait required. These are woven into various patterned plaits, which are then stitched together spirally till the desired shape of hat is made; cleaning, blocking, etc. complete the manufacture. An old Colonist who was at one time the biggest dealer in these old hats told the writer

that the art was introduced into the Colonies by soldiers who had been in the Indies. Convicts also made these hats. Dearth of good plaiting straws would no doubt draw attention to the cabbage palm, which would appear susceptible to the same treatment as other palms, which are split and woven into sinnet through the tropics.

Jeremiah Mahony, known as the 'Cabbage-tree Hat' man, had a shop at one time on Brickfield Hill; was also a political personage in Sir Henry Parkes's early days. This trader's wants were supplied mainly by soldiers garrisoned in Sydney. He supplied the split leaf and paid so much per yard for plait. The making, i.e. the stitching together of the Plait into shapes, was done by the soldiers wives. His business was the blocking, sizing and finishing for local sale or export. The present writer worked at the business in the Eighties, but the material was mostly imported rough shapes and dead stock being refurbished for the warehouses. The industry is now practically dead. For wear these hats are more durable but not so light and flexible as the celebrated Panama hats. Writer cleaned and blocked a cabbage tree hat that had been in wear for eighteen years and which originally cost twelve guineas. One was at one time exhibited in Sydney valued at twenty-five guineas.

The 'flash' rough of the city and also the 'flash' bushman both considered an expensive cabbage tree hat one of the signs of 'flashness' which was often synonymous with 'flushness.' Writer has seen appliances—a block with steel teeth—which would split a cabbage palm leaf into twenty strips to the inch, and taking thirty or forty yards of plait of eight and ten ply all stitched and made by hand, the price of, crave for, and pride in a good cabbage tree hat is understandable. Altogether the cabbage tree hat as a name, a memory, or a fact holds a big place in the affections and aversions of the rapidly disappearing 'old Australians.'

[The base text gives the headword as **Cabbage-garden: Victoria**. The headword in

A & B reads **Cabbage-tree hat Mob** which is consistent with the entry. In this case the use of the earlier headword is preferable.

A does not have 'the price of, crave for, and pride in a good cabbage tree hat are understandable'

B adds by hand 'the price of, crave for, and pride in a good cabbage tree hat are understandable'

The base text has this phrase typed into the draft.]

AND gives **cabbage-tree hat** '1. A wide-brimmed hat woven from cabbbage tree leaves.' (1841).

This term is Australian.

AND gives '**cabbage-tree mob** 1. A collective term for a class of young urban roughs distinguished by their wearing of cabbage-tree hats; a gang of these.' (1848). 'Also **cabbage-tree hat mob.**' (1907).

These terms are Australian.

Cabbage-tree Mob: From B&L—'There is to be found round the doors of the Sydney theatre a sort of loafers known as the Cabbage-tree Mob.' Lieut-Col. Munday, 'Our Antipodes.'

[A & B include the date; 1850.]

AND gives '**cabbage-tree mob** 1. A collective term for a class of young urban roughs distinguished by their wearing of cabbage-tree hats; a gang of these.' (1848).

This appears to be in the material to show a variant of the phrase **cabbage-tree hat mob**.

This phrase was obsolete by 1910.

Cabbageites: obsolete merely a variant.

[This entry is not in A & B.]

AND gives **cabbagite** 'a member of CABBAGE-TREE MOB.' (1852).

This, like the former entry provides a variant of **Cabbage tree hat mob**, which was only used in an historical context after the mid nineteenth century.

Cacky-handed: Left handed. (Grose gives:- caudge-pawed for same thing.)

[This entry is only in A & B]

OED gives '**cack-handed**, *a. dial. or colloq.* Left-handed; ham-handed, clumsy, awkward. Hence cack-handedness.' (1854).

As shown by the entry in *OED*, **cack-handed** is common. The term **cacky-handed** seems to be a variant but there is no evidence outside this material for **cacky-handed**.

Cady: a hat (Castor, a hat, as old as Grose)

[This entry is only in A & B]

OED gives '**cady**, *local A* hat or cap.' (1846).

Lighter gives **cady** (1846).

This term is common, not Australian. The appearance of the term in Lighter's dictionary suggests it was used extensively in America.

Cag-mag: Inferior meat. (Grose gives it the same.)

[This entry is only in A & B]

OED '**cagmag**, *n. and a. dial. or vulgar.* 1. **a.** A tough old goose. **b.** Unwholesome, decayed, or loathsome meat; offal ; hence anything worthless or rubbishy.' (1771).

The entry suggests the use of Grose's dictionary by O'Brien, who compiled this letter in the material.

Grose gives 'bad food, or other coarse things. The word, in the language of Scotland, signifies an old goose.'

This term is not Australian

Calico-Jimmy: *New South Wales political* the tutelary god or patron saint of the Free-trade party, invented by the Protectionist party, who called the Freetraders 'Calico Jimmies.' The word has a quality similar to Jingo or Saint Jingo. Several of the chief leaders of the New South Wales Freetrade party were large wholesale soft-goods importers. The nickname may have its origin in the question of a Freetrader asking 'What about calico?' of some protectionist wanting to manufacture and protect things we produced, as wool, or that the largest part of the said merchants' trade was in calico and general Manchester goods.

[A & B add after the entry: ? Jimmy Macmillan. ? Corruption of calico-jenny.]

AND gives **calico jimmy** 'A member of a free-trade lobby advocating the importation of duty-free textiles; a textile merchant.' (1889 to 1917).

This term was used in the period the material was being compiled, but was not used after the First World War.

It is a term relevant to the federation period and was used during the fierce debate surrounding free-trade. The main obstacle to federation was the divide between the Victorian protectionist and the NSW free-traders. The term **calico jimmy** became irrelevant in 1909 when both sides joined to form the Fusion Party. The export of calico as the main export was taken over by the export of wool at this time.

Camp and variants: all well done by Morris.

[**Morris** gives **Camp**, *n.* (1) A place to live in, generally temporary; a rest.

(2) A place for mustering cattle.

(3) In Australia, frequently used for a camping-out expedition. Often in composition with "out," a *camp-out*.

(4) A name for Sydney and for Hobart, now long obsolete, originating when British military forces were stationed there.

Camp *v.* (1) Generally in composition with "out," to sleep in the open air, usually without any covering. Camping out is exceedingly common in Australia owing to the warmth of the climate and the rarity of rain.

(2) By extension, to sleep in any unusual place, or at an unusual time.

(3) To stop for a rest in the middle of the day.

(4) To floor or prove superior to. *Slang.*]

1. *AND* gives '**camp** *n.* 5. A rest.' (1899).

This sense is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**camp** *n.* 3. A place where stock choose regularly to congregate; a resting-place for travelling stock; the place where a mustered herd is assembled;' (1845).

This sense is Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**camp** *n.* ² 5. An encamping; a 'camping out'. In Australia the regular term for an expedition or excursion for fishing, shooting, etc., in which the party camps out.' (1865).

This sense is Australian.

4. *AND* gives '**camp** *n.* 1. *Obs.* A name given to Sydney and to any of several other towns which grew out of temporary settlements.' (1790).

This sense is Australian.

1. *OED* gives '**camp** *v.* 2. **b. to camp out:** to lodge in the open in a camp. Also *transf.* and *fig.*' (1748).

This sense is not Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**camp** *v.* 2. To take a short rest, usu. for refreshment and not necessarily out of doors.' (1848).

This sense is Australian.

3. *AND* gives '**camp** *v.* 2. To take a short rest, usu. for refreshment and not necessarily out of doors.' (1848).

This sense is Australian.

4. *OED* gives '**camp** *v.* 1. **c. trans.** To excel or surpass in a contest. *Austral.*' (a1882).

This sense is Australian.

Morris misses the sense of **camp** that is defined in *AND* as 'an aboriginal settlement'.

Camp horse: a good camp horse in the wide sense is not only good on a cattle camp at cutting out and rounding up: he is a horse that does not stray, who can be easily traced and caught: some horses will plant, and bullocks have been known to hold their heads in bushes so that the frog bell would not ring and reveal their whereabouts.

AND gives **camp** *n.* 6. Special Comb. 'A '**camp horse**' is one used for cutting out cattle on a camp.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Carpetting: a reprimand or 'hauling over the coals.'

In New South Wales—up on the carpet, sent up to the chief's office to give an explanation—to receive a caution or reprimand—thus a carpetting.

OED gives '**carpeting** 4. See CARPET *v.* 4. *Mod. colloq.* 'She received from her mistress a thorough good carpeting.'

OED gives '**carpet** *v.* 4. *colloq.* To call (a servant) into the parlour, etc., to be reprimanded; to reprimand, 'call over the coals'.' (1840).

This term is not Australian.

Carrying the mail: Northern rivers of New South Wales—standing treat or shouting for drinks. The man who pays is said to carry the mail.

There is no other evidence of this term.

(The term **carry the mail** is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959.

EP 1967S gives **carry the mail** C.20. Baker.

Green appears to take **carry the mail** from EP. Green gives 20C Aust.)

Cat Whipping the cat: on the stool of repentance. See Grose
(Refer to drunkards repentance, Henley. 335)

[This entry is only in A & B]

OED gives '**whip** v.16. **16.** Phrases. **a. to whip the cat:** used (chiefly *dial.* or *techn. colloq.*) in various senses, some of which are not satisfactorily explained.'

'(a) To get drunk; ? = 'to shoot the cat'. (b) ? To lay the blame of one's offences on some one else. (c) To work as an itinerant tailor, carpenter, etc. at private houses by the day. (d) To play a practical joke, for description of which see CAT n.¹ 14. (e) To practise extreme parsimony. (f) To shirk work on Monday. (g) *Cards*. (See quot. 1854.) (h) *Austral.* and *N.Z.* To complain or moan. Cf. *whip-cat* (under WHIP 2).' (1622).'

AND. gives **whip**, v. 'In the phr. **to whip the cat**, to suffer remorse; to complain; to 'cry over spilt milk'.' (1847 to 1968).

This term is Australian.

The citations in *AND* confirm the S&O'B entry which suggests remorse rather than *OED*'s definition of complaint.

Catchup: *bush slang* beer. Used by New South Wales bush cadgers. Catch up to him, he's going to shout. Similar to ketchup—a sauce. Sauce is often drunk by bushmen after a spree to put them right.

[A & B spell the headword: Ketchup instead of Catchup]

Sauce as a term for alcoholic liquor is given as U.S. in *OED*, but the first citation is 1940. I have found no other evidence for **sauce** as beer.

There is no other evidence of either **catchup** or **ketchup** meaning 'beer'.

(The term **ketchup** defined as 'beer', is in Baker 1941 and 1943 editions but not after. The spelling of the headword suggests Baker used either manuscript A or B as the last draft spells it **catchup**.

EP 1967S gives **ketchup** 'beer' C.20. Baker. He does not specify which Baker he took the term from.

Green takes the term from EP. Green gives: **ketchup** 'beer' 20C Aust.)

Centipedes: *bush slang* silly or mad : synonymous with white ants, rats, beetles, etc. All these phrases appear to have their root in the old Scotch saying to describe anyone erratic or peculiar 'A bee in their bonnet.' Compare with 'Rats in your garret.'

[A reads:

? in decayed timber snakes—D.T. ? from drink ? done wornout

Centipedes: *bush slang* silly or mad: synonymous with white ants,
? in dilapidated buildings.

rats, beetles, etc. All these phrases appear to have their root
in the old Scotch saying to describe anyone erratic or peculiar

Beetles attic

'A bee in their bonnet.' Compare with 'Rats in your garret.' Amer.
Bughouse

B reads only: **Centipedes:** ? in decayed timber. *bush slang*.]

There is no other evidence for the term.

Centralia: like Westralia: I believe of Bulletin invention: an abbreviation of Central Australia.

AND gives '**centralia** A name orig. proposed for the Colony of South Australia.' (1888).

This term was used in Australia, as were the terms **Westralia** and **Eastralia**. Unlike **Eastralia**, which was only used for a short time, **Centralia** and **Westralia** continued to be used.

This term is Australian. The term **centralia** was not used in the *Bulletin* until 1896, eight years after the first citation, therefore the claim that it is a *Bulletin* invention is incorrect.

Chaining up a Pup: *Aust.* To run up a score in a public house or store. A pup chained up—means an account standing which the debtor is unable or unwilling to pay.

[A & B add to the bottom of this entry: If you leave a pup long enough he will become some day a dog mad enough to bite you.]

There is no other evidence for the term.

This entry was followed by the entry for **mad dog**, which has been moved to its correct alphabetical place.

(The term **tie up a dog** is defined by Baker as 'To obtain credit, esp. for drinks at an hotel. An early variant was "to chain up a pup." An account which

the debtor refuses to pay is called “a mad dog.” This entry is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not in later publications.
EP 1967S takes it from Baker. EP gives ‘**chain up a pup**—see *tie up a dog*’ cites B., 1942.
Green takes **chain up a pup** from EP and gives 20C Aust.
Although Baker did not use **chain up a pup** as a headword it appears he has taken the phrase from this material, and also used **mad dog** which appeared with this entry in S&O’B.
The phrase **tie up a dog** is Australian. This phrase was not used by S&O’B.)

‘**Chalk it up.**’ *Slang* make a note of it. When a notorious liar tells the truth or a close-fisted person ‘shouts’ a listener or bystander may observe ‘Chalk it up.’
[This entry is only in A & B.]

This term is not Australian. Stephens appears to have realised this as it was removed from the latest draft. See entry below.

Chalk up: to obtain anything on credit. From B&L—‘Whole weeks and months of hard earned gold by ounces, even by pounds’ weight at a time disappeared at these haunts in mazy account and reckoning between a landlord and his customer chalked up during successive days of intoxication.’ W Westgarth, ‘Victoria, late Australia Felix.’
Chalk up, as quote shows, has its origin in old custom of publicans ‘chalking up’ a customer’s score. The back of a door, a slate, or even the wall serves for day book, and ten strokes are wiped off and an ‘x’ substituted. With drinks at sixpence each the reckoning would be simple, and from a publican’s point of view is far preferable to books. By Australian licensing law a publican cannot recover money for drinks served over the bar on credit. Have seen a bill for twenty pounds for two weeks’ board and lodging, mainly drinks.

OED gives ‘**chalk** v. 3. b. spec. To write up in chalk (a record, esp. of credits given); to score. Hence **to chalk it:** to run up a score, take ‘tick’. Now esp. common in phr. **to chalk it up (to)**, to charge it (to) (a person, an account, experience, etc.). Also, to write *down*; to set down as a sum or estimate.’ (1597).
This term is not Australian.

Charlies: a woman’s breasts: variants—dibs, lemons, dairies, bubs.
[A & B both include ‘Henley’ after the entry.]

OED gives ‘**Charley, Charlie** 4. pl. A woman’s breasts. *slang.*’ (1874).
OED gives ‘**bubby**¹ *Obs. or dial.* A woman’s breast.’ (1686).
OED gives ‘**bub**, n.⁵ A contraction of BUBBY 1.’ (1860).

F&H give the terms 'charlies', 'dairies' 'dids' and 'bubs'.
There is no evidence for dibs or lemons.
The term **charlie** is standard.

Chat: *thieves* to tell, to warn, to inform: generally to talk to: 'I gave him the chat that the Ds wanted him.'

[A & B add: *austral thieves* man: 'Who's the chat?' 'who's the fellow or man?'
Corruption of chap.

The chat may be merely a prearranged signal or gesture. Also in sport 'the office' (which see) This entry belongs under the word 'cheet'.]

F&H gives '**chat** 4. (low).—Gabble; chatter; impudence; e.g., None of your CHAT, or I'll give you a shove in the eye.'

OED gives '**chat** *n*1 2. Familiar and easy talk or conversation. **to hold one chat, with chat, in chat:** to keep one engaged in talk (*obs.*).' (1573).

OED gives '**chat** *n*1. 3. *colloq.* The thing under discussion, the question.' (1862)

OED gives '**chat**, *n.*¹ 4. *dial.* Impertinent talk, impudence. *Mod. Sc.* 'Give us none of your chat'.

The definition intended by S&O'B is unclear. The combination of the word 'generally' and the example they give could imply that the meaning is 'to warn, tip off'. There is no other evidence for this sense.

The other possibility is that they intended the broader sense of 'to talk', with the 'to warn' sense being an alternative sense. In this sense the term is standard.'

A & B give **chat** as a corruption of **chap**, for which there is no evidence. As a noun, a prearranged signal, there is no other evidence, although the term **chete** was used to refer to a man in the entry for **cheet**.

The term is not Australian.

Cheet: *Austral thieves* man: 'Who'se the cheet?' 'whose the fellow or man.'

F&H give: 'CHEET, *subs.* (old).—A general name for any object.' (1608) This appears to be an alternate spelling of the next entry. The term, with various spellings, was used by thieves to denote any thing, as shown in the entry below.

This term is not Australian.

Chete: *old cant* crunching chetes—teeth: topping chete—gallows: cutting chete—a knife from B&L

Westmoreland: cheet—a fragment or bit.

[This entry is not in A & B]

B&L give 'This word was extensively used by the vagrant classes in reference to anything. Teeth were called 'cracking' or 'crunching *chetes*.'

This term is not Australian.

Chi-ike: *roughs* B&L A street salute, a loud word of hearty praise, a cheer.
Now join in a chi-ike-ike
Jolly we all like
I am off with a party to the Vic.
Vance: The Cickaleary Cove.

See **Chi-iked** for discussion of this term.

Chi-iked: *tailors* chaffed unmercifully.

This entry is copied without acknowledgment from B&L.

This is the same word as **AND chiack**.

AND gives **chiack** '[Br. slang *chihike*, apparently orig. a costermonger's cry of praise or commendation: see OED(S.) *trans.* To taunt, barrack or tease (someone)' (1853).

This term is Australian.

Chin-Chin: Aust. *Drinking salutation* here's to you etc. B.& L. give: from Mandarin ts'ing ts'ing, Cantonese ch'ing ch'ing, equal to 'thank you, adieu, or salutation.' In pidgin, used for worship, prayer, or to make a request. Pretty common usage throughout countries between India, China and Australia.

OED gives '**chin chin** *n.* Anglo-Chinese. A phrase of salutation. Also used as a drinking toast.' (1795).

This term is not Australian.

Chin-sauce: talk, more particularly in the sense of a curtain lecture, or boarding house mistress lecturing lodgers. 'I went home boozed last night and got no tea.' 'No tea?' 'Well the missus served me up a dish of tongue pie with chin sauce.' *Colloquial*.

OED gives '**Chin** *n.* 1. *e. slang* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). A talk; conversation; spec. insolent talk, 'cheek'. Also, reduplicated, **chin-chin**. Cf. CHIN v. 3 and CHIN-wag.' (1877).

OED gives '**chin** *n.* 2. *comb.*, **chin-music** (chiefly U.S.), talk, chatter;' (1834).

This term is not Australian.

Chivy—chiv: the face abbreviation of Chivy Chase: rhyming slang. Chivy—to hunt, pursue, or chase. 'Chivvied 'em all over the place.' Both *as slang* are of Cockney origin. Chivy is current in Australian push circles.

[A & B read: (Eng) the face; abbreviation of Chivy Chase:]

1. OED gives '**chevy, chivy, n. 4.b. Rhyming slang** = FACE *n.* 1a. Also *ellipt.* as *chevy*. Cf. CHIV(V)Y *n.* ?Obs.' (1859 to 1904).

AND gives **chiv** '[Abbrev. Of *chiv(v)y* shortened form of *Chevy Chase*, rhyming slang for 'face'.] The face.' (1902).

The shortened form **chiv** is Australian.

2. OED gives '**chevy, chivy, n. 2. A chase, pursuit, hunt.**' (a1824).

This sense is not Australian, but it is included to explain the origin of the term.

Chokey: *prison*. B&L give—guard room: choki—is Anglo Hindustanee, derived from 'chank', the market place near the gate in which Orientals lodged their captives.

'Points to Indian Army deriv'.]

AND gives **chokey** (1840 to 1962). Also used in Anglo-Indian.

OED gives '**choky, n. Anglo-Ind. 1. A custom or toll station, in India** (in quot. 1608 erroneously applied to the toll itself); a station for palankin-bearers, horses, etc., a guard-house; a police-station.' (1608 to 1845).

'2. A police 'station' or lock-up (in India).' (1866 to 1869).

'b. In this sense also English *slang*, and by association with *choke*, variously misused.' (1873 to 1884).

This term has survived longest in Australia. There is a citation from Western Australia that gives the definition of the term **chokey** as solitary confinement. The Australian sense of **chokey** appears to have changed over time.

Chuck: tucker, food.

B&L give: chee-muck—American food: taken from Indians of northwest, and now current among miners. An American roughs' song first sung in Sydney by the notorious Gipps Street push—'And with good luck be bum our chuck,
And d- the man that works.'

[A & B give: tucker, food. (AMER)]

A & B also add to the end of the entry: ... notorious Gipps Street push - during the late 'eighties—"And with good luck we bum our chuck (to cadge a subsistence)"

B&L give **che-muck** as the headword.

OED gives '**Chuck** *n.* **5.** *slang or dial.* Now chiefly in *U.S.* informal use. **1.** Food, 'grub'. (In early use *spec.* bread or ship-biscuit.)' (1850).
This term is not Australian.

Chy-ack: Australian meaning similar to 'poking borak' which see.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: from 'cheek'.]

AND gives '**chiack** *n.* Also chyack. [f. *prec.*] Banter, barracking.' (1853).
This term is Australian.

The origin is not from the noun cheek. The term **chi-ike** is described by Hotten as 'a hail; a good loud word of hearty praise; term used by the costermongers, who assist the sale of each other's goods by a little friendly, although noisy commendation.' The origin suggested by S&O'B is in the Red Page of the *Bulletin* 17 Dec 1898. This is the article on slang written by Jack Shay (Steve O'Brien). This suggested origin does not appear in the third draft, suggesting S&O'B realised this was not correct.

Claim: *diggings* the area of ground which each miner is allowed to hold of his own person. In mining, the term is limited to gold digging under a miner's right.

AND gives '**claim** [*Spec.* use of (*orig.* *U.S.*) *claim.*] **1.** A piece of land formally claimed and taken up for mining purposes.' (1851).

OED gives '**claim**, *n.* **3.** That which is claimed; *spec.* in *U.S.* and *Australia*, a piece of land allotted and taken, esp. for mining purposes.' (1792).

This term did not originate in Australian. The Australian sense differs from the American sense in that it applies to the formal registration of the miner's right to the use of the land.

Clay-pan: a shallow catchment area in which water is held by reason of the clay bottom.

[This entry is not in A & B]

AND gives **claypan** '**1.** A shallow depression with an impermeable clay base which holds water after rain.' (1858).

This term is Australian.

Cleanskin: a technical term signifying stock not branded, applied more particularly to cattle. Under the old order of station usage when runs and paddocks were not so closely fenced, there was often a doubt as to the ownership of young stock and the putting of brands on any young stock mustered up gave a good title. Squatters, selectors and many other people were always on the watch for cleanskins to brand. This was the chief practice of cattle duffers.

Cleanskins were also a drover's perks. A drover going a trip with a certain number of branded cattle would receive a price per head for all cleanskins he delivered. Drovers were thus instigated to round up any unbranded stock they came in contact with while travelling.

The word also draws attention to the Australian diversity of practice in branding, and brands—some of them of huge dimensions—are to be found on any part of the animal's body which the fancy or clumsiness of the brander may decide.

Slang An unmarried girl of good repute.

[B&C spell: practise]

1. *AND* gives '**cleanskin 1**. An unbranded animal.' (1881).

AND gives '**cleanskin 2**. 'An Aboriginal who has not passed through an initiation rite.' (1903).

AND gives '**cleanskin 3**. 'One who has no criminal record; one new to (a situation or activity) and lacking experience.' (1907).

This term is Australian.

2. The slang sense of an unmarried girl is not in *AND*, and there is no other written evidence for this term.

Cobber: *slang*,—confidant, closest friend, mate or chum: possibly a corruption of the aboriginal 'cobbra' the head. 'Mine cobbra berry sick' is how an aboriginal described a headache. Cobbers may be of either sex, and implies a very free and intimate friendship.

AND gives '**cobber** [Prob. f. Br. dial. *cob* to take a liking to: see EDD v 2] **1**. An intimate; a companion; a friend. Freq. used as a mode of address.' (1893).

OED gives '**cobber n. 2**. *Austral. and N.Z. colloq.* [perh. f. dial. *cob* (see *E.D.D.*), to take a liking to.] A companion, a mate, a friend.' (1895).

EDD traces this dialect word to Yiddish.

This term is Australian.

Cobbler: a sheep with a very hard and dirty fleece loaded with sand, dirt, burr or grease is known as a cobbler: they are very hard to shear. Possibly from a man having to 'peg away' to keep up his tally. Old bush song:-

Your hands are far too soft and smooth
At shearing for to shine,
For there's hard and sandy cobblers
On the banks of the River-ine.

This song which is very old, about the Fifties, gives the original use of cobbler. In modern use the cobbler is generally the last sheep in the pen. But supposing two or more men shearing from one pen, a heavy dirty sheep would no doubt be dodged by each shearer. This is on all fours with the meaning of cobbler in the song.

[B has a hand written note which appears to be O'Brien's writing : 'Cobbler sticks to the last.']

AND gives '**cobbler** *n.*² [Shortened form of *cobbler's last*, as a pun on *last*.] A sheep which is difficult to shear and therefore often the last sheep to be taken from a pen.' (1871).

This term is Australian.

SDD gives '**cobble** *n.* tangle, confusion.' This could be the origin of the term in Australia, making S&O'B correct about the original meaning.

Cockatoo: or **cockie**, which form is mostly used—has become fixed as an epithet for small farmers. Among bushmen a 'cockie' is synonymous with everything poor and mean. A cockie's clip, in shearing, is equivalent to shaving a sheep. To 'pink 'em' is used on stations, and means to shear close down and get all the wool, but a cockie's clip is as much closer to the skin as the shearer can possibly shear. Though 'cockie' practically covers every settler under the status of squatter, it more especially applies to the small selectors who hold from forty up to one hundred and fifty acres of land. It is only the 'boss cockie' who is anything more than a wheat grower. On many cockies' farms poultry, milk, butter and eggs are either unknown or positive luxuries. Their practice is to grow but one crop—wheat, and on it they depend for subsistence. Drought or continuous rain at inopportune seasons leaves them beggars, and the storekeeper takes a mortgage of their stores and next wheat crop. He often takes the crops at his own price owing to the cockie's exigencies. In some Australian districts, owing to foreclosure, hundreds of farms have become the freehold of storekeeping firms, whose land-grabbing aims are a parallel for the squatter and dummy. ['Cocky' abb of 'Peacock.' 'Peacocking' picking out the eyes on best portions of anything. Selectors or cockies picked out the best bits of land. 'Peacing' a run, or station.]

[A & B have a separate entry for **cockie**, starting at 'Though 'cockie'..

A adds: 'Morris 344' after the word 'station'.

'Morris 344', refers to page 344 of *Austral English* which contains an entry for the term **peacocking**.

C includes as one entry the text from both the entries in A & B for **cockatoo** and **cockie**.

C also gives: next seed wheat.]

[There is a newspaper clipping dated 28.8.97 attached to A:-

From a man who dislikes the cocky:-

Ed. Bulletin,—One of the many eye-sores of the bush is the cocky's son. Slow of speech, dull of apprehension, loutish and stupid, to be in his company, to live with him is an affliction. Where he shines is on horseback.—M.B.]

AND gives **cockatoo**, *n.*² **2. a.** 'A small farmer; orig. with reference to tenant farmers, brought from Sydney and settled in the Port Fairy district.' (1845).

This term is Australian.

AND gives **cocky**, *n.*² and *attrib.* Also **cockie**. **A. n.** 'Chiefly used of a small farmer but now often applied to a substantial landowner or to the rural interest generally.' (1871).

AND includes a citation from *Land, Labor & Gold*, 'A mischievous cockatoo settler. Most agricultural settlers are thus styled by the squatters, because, I suppose, they look upon them, with their enclosures, as plunderers and encroachers on their wild woods, settling down upon them, as the cockatoos do on the ripening corn.'

This is likely to be the correct origin, rather than an abbreviation of the term **peacocking**.

This term is Australian.

Cockatoo fence: fences in general worth monographs by good bushman: dog-leg, chock and log, wire fence, post and rail fence, barbed wire: may write up myself under 'F' Fences.

[B has hand corrections: changing monographs to monograph and bushman to bushmen]

AND gives **cockatoo**, *n*² '3. Special Comb. **cockatoo fence**, a fence improvised from logs and branches.' (1861).

This term is Australian.

Colonial experience: this phrase, like charity, covereth a multitude of sins and iniquities. The origin of the system is the taking of cadets on stations for a term of years, often without remuneration. In return they are supposed to amass colonial experience. Droving, branding, killing, culling, book-keeping, etc, etc, all come within this scope. Stations in instances have become notorious for working with quite a crowd of colonial experiencers. In some cases they have to do very menial and laborious work. They are the particular aversion of bushmen, who have bestowed upon them the name 'jackeroo.'

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Which see practically obsolete.]

AND gives **colonial experience** 'A. *n*. 1. First-hand knowledge of the conditions of life in (outback) Australia; training in self-reliance, esp. in station management and skills necessary on a sheep or cattle station.' (1838).

'2. A (British) youth living and working on an (Australian) sheep or cattle station in order to learn the necessary occupational skills: see JACKEROO *n*. 2.' (1868)

This term is Australian.

Colonial goose and duck: colonial duck—a shoulder of mutton with the bone taken out; it is then filled with savoury stuffing and rolled into a form somewhat resembling a roast duck. Colonial goose—a leg of mutton similarly treated.

AND gives **colonial** 5. In special collocations '**goose**, a boned leg of mutton stuffed with sage and onion.' (1882).

This term is Australian.

There is no other evidence for the term **colonial duck**. Although it is a logical extension of **colonial goose**.

Color: *diggings technicality* a color, in prospecting for gold, is the smallest possible speck of gold visible to the naked eye in the bottom of the washing dish after panning off a prospect. A few colors would be several specks, and a kind of rough guessing gives so many colors to the grain. Thus an expert prospector estimates, taking quantity of wash available and colors to the dish, so many dishes to the load, so many pennyweights or ounces to the load. He reckons out whether the pay-dirt of a lead or surface area will pay to work.

[A & B spell the headword: Colour]

AND gives '**colour**. *Mining*. Also **color**. [U.S. *color* a trace of gold: see Mathews.] 1. A trace or particle of gold;' (1859).

This term is Australian.

Coming the aftergame: sporting slang—to make an assertion of the 'didn't I tell you so' or 'I knew it' kind after the conclusion of any event.

Also—expressing repentance after losing money, and swearing never to bet again.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The phrase **coming the aftergame** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not after 1943.

EP 1967S takes it from Baker, EP gives since ca. 1925. B., 1942.

Green takes it from EP, gives 1920s+ Aus.

It appears that Baker realised it was not Australian term by 1945.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Common wealth: theatrical: theatrical companies playing on shares call the practice commonwealth: first rent, then gas, then advertising, the balance of the receipts is then divided among the company, either equally or in ratio of their usual salaries.

[A The headword reads: **Commonwealth**, B reads **Common wealth** but has a correction by hand indicating it should be one word]

OED gives '**commonwealth** 5. *b. Theatr.* A company of actors who share the receipts instead of receiving salaries.' (1824).

The origin is from:

OED gives '**commonwealth** 1. Public welfare; general good or advantage.

Obs. in ordinary use: see COMMON-WEAL'. (c1470).

This term is not Australian.

Conditional holdings: *land tenure term* land held on lease on condition of the holder fulfilling certain conditions as to improvement or noxious plant and vermin destruction.

[This entry is not in A & B]

OED gives '**holding**, *vbl. n.* I **1.b. spec.** The tenure or occupation of land. (1420).

II. That which is held. **3. a.** Land held by legal right, esp. of a superior; a tenement.' (1640).

The term **holding** is standard.

There is evidence that the phrase **conditional holding** was used at this time. The conditional purchase of land was debated extensively during the Federation debates.

Sir H Parkes's *Fifty Years in the Making of Australian History* (1892).

'Present **conditional purchase holders** may come under these provisions, half their pre-leases being secured for five years, with right of purchase.'

This term is not Australian.

Consultation: a racing or gambling lottery run on the mutual system, the promoter reserving a commission on the whole amount. Adams's consultations, Dowridge's consultations, etc, etc. A £50,000 consultation on the Melbourne Cup, etc. 'Consultation' appears to have been the result of a lottery promoter's search for a word to describe his lotteries or sweeps. A consultation is a lottery pure and simple: one set of prizes follow the event of a certain race, others are cash prizes drawn and paid straight out. The subscription may be 10000 members at £1 or 50000 at 5/-, whatever the proprietor decides. In all but one Australian province they have been suppressed under the Gambling Acts.

AND gives '**consultation**. [Euphem. use of *consultation* the seeking of advice.] A sweepstake ... a lottery.' (1880).

This term is Australian.

Coo-ee: Morris's stuff all good. He misses slang or vulgar use: 'Within coo-ee of' i.e. within hail. Within coo-ee of the station or house etc.

[**Morris: Coo-ee**, or **Cooey**, *n.* and *interj.* spelt in various ways. ... A call borrowed from the aborigines and used in the bush by one wishing to find or to be found by another. In the vocabulary of native words in 'Hunter's Journal,' published in 1790, we find "Cow-ee=to come."

Cooee, **within**, *adv.* within easy distance.

Cooee, *v. intr.* to utter the call.]

S&O'B are incorrect about Morris missing **within cooee**.

AND gives '**cooee** *n.* [a. Dharuk *guwi.*] 1. Orig. a call used by an Aboriginal to communicate (with someone) at a distance; later adopted by settlers and now widely used as a signal, esp. in the bush ... a name given to the call.' (1790). AND gives **cooee cooee** *v.* 'To utter a 'cooee'.' (1824). AND gives **cooee** *n.* 3. 'In the phr. **within cooee**, within earshot; within reach, near.' (1836).

This term is Australian.

Cop out: *thieves* to undergo punishment either by fine or imprisonment for any misdemeanour or crime. 'You'll cop out,' is a colloquialism meaning 'you'll catch it,' ie. punishment.

OED gives '**cop** *v.* 3. *north. dial. and slang. c. to cop it:* to 'catch' it, to be punished, get into trouble; also, to die. So **to cop out**, **cop a packet**, etc. *dial. and slang.*' (1884).

This term is not Australian.

Cop out: *vulgar* to contract any venereal disorder.

[A adds: "or other ailment 'copped a cold'" after the word 'disorder.'
This definition of **cop out** is not in B.]

There is no evidence for this term in S&O'B's sense, although cop meaning 'to catch' is common.

OED gives '**cop** *v.* 3. **a. trans.** To capture, catch, lay hold of, 'nab'. (1704).

Lighter gives '**cop** 3a to get (in most familiar trans. senses), as: to obtain, receive, purchase, be inflicted with, etc.'

This term appears to be an extension of the U.S. sense 'to catch' or to 'be inflicted with.'

This term is not Australian.

Copped out: Get caught. Yet one would not say 'copped' fish.

[This entry is only in A.]

OED gives '**cop** *v.* 3. **c. to cop it:** to 'catch' it, to be punished, get into trouble; also, to die. So **to cop out**, **cop a packet**, etc. *dial. and slang.*' (1884).

This term is not Australian.

Copper: B&L say cop has the signification of catch. This is the general Australian nickname for policemen—coppers or catchers. Copper being also slang for penny, there seems to be a punning connection between it and bobby—'bob' is Australian slang for a shilling.

Cop, as a variant of bird, is in common use. To say a horse is a 'dead cop' is to mean a sure winner.

[A & B leave out the reference to coinage marked above.]

B&L gives '**Cop, to** (sporting) to win, to get money; a dead *cop*, a sure method of arriving at this result.'

This entry is not directly copied from B&L, but the information is from B&L.

1. OED gives '**copper**, *n.* 4. *slang.* A policeman; also *attrib.*, as in **copperstick**, a policeman's truncheon. Hence, one who informs on fellow prisoners; a police informant; esp. **to come** or **turn copper**.' (1846).

This sense is not Australian.

2. OED gives '**copper**, *n.* 1. 2. **a.** Copper money; with *a* and *pl.* (*colloq.*), a copper coin; a penny or halfpenny; a cent of the United States. Still used of the bronze which has superseded the copper coinage.' (1588).

This sense is not Australian.

3. The term **dead bird**, 'a horse which is a certainty', is Australian. **Dead bird** is a separate entry in this material. There is no evidence for **dead cop** as an alternative term for **dead bird**.

Copperman: Aus.

[This is only in A & B.]

AND gives '**cop**. Used *attrib.* in Special Comb. **copman**, **copperman** (both *obs.*), a policeman.' (1916).

This term is Australian.

Copping the bullet: getting dismissed: synonymous with getting sacked, getting the wallop, getting the sack, getting shunted, getting fired, getting shot. In Australia most service is terminable at short notice, long agreements being exceptional. Sudden dismissals are common, which accounts for the multiplicity of idioms expressing dismissal.

[A & B add after the entry: See 'cop' 'copping'.]

OED gives '**bullet**, *n.* 1 3. **b. fig.** Notice to quit, the 'sack'. *slang.*' (1841).

F&H give '**bullet** TO GIVE THE BULLET, *verbal phr.* (common)—to discharge an employé'. Also Cop 'COP THE BULLET OR THE DOOR = to get the sack.'

This term is not Australian.

Cornstalk: nickname for natives, more particularly New South Wales natives: same as Bananalanders for Queenslanders, Cabbage-gardener for Victorians, etc. In New South Wales the name was originally applied to the natives of the

Hawkesbury Basin. About Richmond, Windsor, and district was the first real agricultural settlement in Australia. The natives of those districts to the present day are noted for their stature. Corn meal (hominy) and pumpkins are said by old colonists to have been the principal diet of the Hawkesbury natives, the neighbourhood being the first district in the Colonies to produce corn (maize) and pumpkins in any quantity. The district is still a large producer of these articles.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Lieut. Gov. Grose writes 29 April, 1794:

'I have settled on the banks of the Hawkesbury twenty-two settlers, who seem very much pleased with their farms. They describe the soil as particularly rich, and they inform me whatever they have planted has grown in the greatest luxuriance.' The 'settlers' themselves also grew 'in the greatest luxuriance.' Maize or 'Indian Corn' (the seed obtained from the Cape of Good Hope) was a staple crop of the infant colony.]

AND gives **cornstalk** '1. A nickname for a non-Aboriginal native of Australia.' (1827).

This is an Australian term.

Corrobbery: creek *Morris*.

[A & B give **Corrobberee**: cheek *Morris* trf. to sprees,—meetings—idea of company. Cf pow-wow (Ind.)

A & B give 'cheek' and C gives 'creek'. The definition in C or the base text is a typing error.]

[**Morris: Corrobbery**, *n*. This spelling is nearest to the accepted pronunciation, the accent falling on the second syllable. Various spellings, however, occur, viz.—*Corobbery*, *Corrobery*, *Corrobbery*, *Corroborree*, *Corrobbory*, *Corroborry*, *Corrobboree*, *Coroboree*, *Corroboree*, *Korroboree*, *Corroborri*, *Corrobaree*, and *Caribberie*. To these Mr. Fraser adds *Karabari*, (see quotation, 1892), but his spelling has never been accepted in English. The word comes from the Botany Bay dialect. [The aboriginal verb (see Ridley's 'Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages,' p. 107) is *korobra*, to dance; in the same locality *boroya* or *beria* means to sing; probably *koro* is from a common Australian word for emu.—J. Mathew.]

- (1) An aboriginal name for a dance, sacred, festive, or warlike.
- (2) The song that accompanied the dance.
- (3) By transference, any large social gathering or public meeting
- (4) By natural transference, a noise, disturbance, fuss or trouble.]

1, 2 and 3. AND gives **corroboree** *n*. 1. 'An Aboriginal dance ceremony, of which song and rhythmical musical accompaniment are an integral part, and which may be sacred and ritualized or secular, occasional, and informal. Hence loosely, in extended senses, esp. with reference to a meeting or assembly, or to festivity generally.' (1790)

4. There is no evidence of the term being used in this sense.

There is no other evidence for **corrobbery** being used to mean 'cheek' or 'creek'.

Cosher or kosher: *slang* good, all right. Jewish *Kosher* meat killed according to Jewish custom is known as Kosher meat. Variants of Kosher: Cush—Cush and all, which is a simple reversal of 'All cush.'

[A adds to the end of the entry: Quote Bedford and Merl Fink. ;
B adds: Quote Bedford.]

Randolph Bedford was a mining engineer and poet, who contributed to the *Bulletin*. Merl Fink remains unknown.

OED gives '**cosher** (in Jewish use see Kosher)' '**kosher**, a. (n.) [Heb. k sh r right.] **A. adj. a.** Right, good; applied to meat and other food prepared according to the Jewish law.' (1851).
This term is not Australian.

(The term **cosher** is in Baker 1941 and not in any later publications.
EP 1967 gives: **Kosher**; occ. **cosher**. See **kosh**.—2. Adj., fair, square: East end of London: from ca. 1860. Ex Hebrew *kasher*, lawful, esp. as applied to meat.
EP did not take this entry from Baker.)

Cosher or kosher: *Sydney and Melbourne slang* a policeman.

B&L give: Cosher—a stick, more especially a policeman's baton: from Gypsy Kasht, corrupt form Kash, - wood in any form.

Colonial appears though to be merely a corruption of 'copper.'

[A & B add: variant of copperman.]

OED gives '**cosh** *n.*3. **a.** A stout stick, bludgeon or truncheon; a length of metal used as a life-preserver; also (*dial.*), a stick; a school cane; a caning. Phr. **under the cosh**, at one's mercy, helpless.' (1869). 'Hence **cosh** *v. trans.*, to strike with a cosh; **coshed** *ppl. a.*; **cosher**; **coshing** *vbl. n.* and *ppl. a.*' (1889).

There is no other evidence of this term as applied to a policeman.
This is not an Australian term.

Cove: *slang* is synonymous with fellow or bloke: 'Which cove?' 'That cove.' Writer remembers a school jingle of the Seventies which ran:- 'Are you the cove that told the cove that I was the cove that gave the cove a bad shilling.'

Conjecture This word may have something in common with Sydney-sider as a name for Sydney natives. Sydney Cove was the scene of the first Australian colonization, and the idiom may have originated in some person calling a Sydney native a Sydney Cover.

B&L give: in old cant—cofe, cuffin, a man, also a landlord. This word Hotten connects with 'cuife' a North of England word for a lout or awkward fellow.—B&L A coof is Scotch, - an awkward coof, variation no doubt of cuif.

[A gives: *old English slang*, B gives: *vulgar*, and C gives: *slang*.

B gives: Sydney Cove

B adds: Grose (died 1791) gives cove as master of a house or shop and generally a man.]

AND gives '**cove** [Survival of Br. criminal cant cove fellow, 'chap': see OED(S sb.² Used elsewhere but apparently most freq. in Aust.] '1. A man, a 'bloke' or 'chap'.' (1828).

OED gives '**cove**, n.² *slang* (orig. *Thieves' cant*). A fellow, 'chap', 'customer'; sometimes = BOSS n.⁶ (see quotes. 1812, 1891). Frequent in the 20th century in Austral. sources.' (1567).

Lighter gives **Cove** Romani *kova* 'thing, person' (1567). 'Rare in US after 1885'. S&O'B's origin is incorrect. S&O'B give the older use of the term, which is the correct origin for cove, not the speculation of the shortened sense of Sydney cover. Lighter's evidence shows the term was transferred from England to the colonies, but survived longest in Australia.

This term was most frequently used in Australia.

Cow-itch: cow-itch is the dust out of a horse's coat which gathers in the currycomb; or finely chopped cow or horse hair. To sprinkle either of these in a person's bed or inside their shirt or about a dance floor is an old bush joke, the resulting irritation set up being known as cow-itch.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Cow-itch or cow-hage is an English plant; the leaves of which are covered with little hooks. This down or hair was used as a cure for worms in horses.]

OED gives '**cowage**, **cowhage** The stinging hairs of the pod of a tropical plant, *Mucuna pruriens*, family Leguminosæ, formerly used as an anthelmintic; also the plant, or its pods. 'The pods are 4 or 5 inches long, shaped like the letter, and clothed with a thick coating of short stiff brittle hairs of a bright brown colour, the points of which are notched or finely serrated, and easily penetrate the skin, causing intolerable itching' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).' (1640).

There is no evidence of the term being used meaning the dust out of a horses coat.

This term is not Australian.

Crib: miner's term for a twenty-minute interval for food or smoke-ho, known as crib-time; and lunch carried to work is known as crib.

A brothel or place of assignation or prostitution: any house used for immoral purposes.

Crib or crib-time, with Australian metal miners, is a spell of twenty minutes in the middle of a shift: the shifts work eight hours each, and thus three shifts carry work on continuously. The twenty minutes for lunch is a concession to the miners: it is, so to speak, cribbed from their working time. Miners speak of their lunch or meal eaten in mid-shift as crib.

AND gives '**crib** 1. A light meal or refreshment, packed to be eaten during a break from work; the break itself.' (1890).

OED gives '**crib**, *n.* 6. *fig. b. dial., Austral., and N.Z.* Food, provisions; a light meal or snack; a piece of bread, cake, etc. *Freq. attrib.*'

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Crib*.3. A miner's luncheon.

1942 A.L. ROWSE *Cornish Childhood* ii. 30 He used to take it to work with him and at crib-time (i.e. lunch-time) would entertain his fellows with it.

This term was introduced into Australia from Cornish miners. Use in Australia of **crib** in this sense expanded beyond the mining industry.

For the brothel sense see **bilking crib**.

Cronk or Kronk: *sporting* crooked, bad, unfit. This word first came into common use in Australia during the prize fighting and boxing boom of '89, '90 and '91. Its first use was to describe a boxer who let himself get beat either wilfully or through unfitness. Its use extended, and a 'readied-up fight,' i.e. one of which the result was prearranged as to who was to win, was kronk. Its meaning has further widened to mean anything unfair or dishonest. Swindling in either sport or business. It is, I believe, of American origin, imported along with 'schleenter,' another Anglo-German word, by American pugilists visiting Australia and returned Australian pugilists who had been to America. Possible German-American root: German—krank, sick. Its further development as Australian is towards simplicity: crook—bad, sick, dishonest.

[A adds to end of the entry; From crooked, Eng. Henley.

A & B both add to end of entry:

A crook—a thief or swindler.

'She is crook—meaning a woman is immoral or infected.

A crook tote—a shop totalisator which swindles its patrons.

A crook house—a brothel.

Both A & B spell 'schleenter': 'schlenter.']

[There are newspaper clippings attached to A:-

13.11.1897

In cancelling their right to hold retrospective enquiries the V.R.C. stewards have practically licenced 'cronk' owners to spit at newspaper criticism. As racing law stands nowadays a 'stiff' horse whose bad performance is allowed to pass without enquiry, or without disqualification in the event of his being brought to trial, may show the finest of form an hour or two later, and no questions can be asked. Thus a fairly clever 'pull' preserved from painful consequences in the near future. The stewards see nothing wrong at the time. Therefore when the swindle is revealed by a sudden reversal of 'form' the eyes of officialdom can merely wink at the disgusting truth. Let the galled punter wince, and hoot if it please him—the jockey's withers are unwrung. The dead past buries its dead, and the reward of the evil-doing stable is a fine fat price about a winner that hadn't a million to one chance on its previous running.

18.11.1897

Concerning the Cronk Assurance Office.

Australasia, of late years, has commenced to work up an unsavory reputation as a haunt of small cronk life-assurance companies.】

AND gives **cronk** *a.* and *n.* Also **kronk**. '**A.** *adj.* Dishonest, illegal, 'crooked'; ill, in poor condition; not genuine.' (1890).
This term is Australian.

Crooking the elbow: having a drink: 'Every time he opens his mouth his elbow bends,' humorous description of a hard or constant drinker.

OED gives '**crook**, *v.* **d.** *to crook one's elbow* or *little finger*: to drink alcoholic liquor (esp. with implication of excess). *slang.*' (1825).
This term is not Australian.

Crow-eater: An epithet applied to natives or citizens of South Australia: used with great gusto when a firm of South Australian contractors in the 'Eighties, securing a contract in New South Wales, imported South Australian men to work at lower rates. At the time there was a heavy drought in South Australia, and many selectors abandoned their holdings and took up navvying. The root of the name lies in a report that owing to their destitution the farmers were glad to shoot and eat crows, which were euphemistically called 'white eyed pheasants.' I myself have seen Chinamen in Wagga pay fourpence a head for crows. A powder-and-shot sport for the local boys.

AND gives **croweater** 'A nickname for a non-Aboriginal person resident in, or native to, South Australia.' (1881). Three of the citations (1881, 1916 and 1934) used by *AND* suggest the same origin as given by S&O'B.

F&H give CROW-EATER, *subs.* (colonial)—A lazybones who prefers subsisting upon what he can pick up, as the crows do, to putting himself to the trouble of working for it.' 'Loafer'. This term is applied to South Africa, and is a different sense to the Australian sense.

The term is not in *A Dictionary of South African English*.

This term is Australian.

Cultivation paddock: *station term* a paddock sometimes planted with hay crops, otherwise simply ploughed and harrowed to aid the growth of the native grasses. More often the term applies to a paddock in which an attempt is made at kitchen and fruit gardening.

AND gives '**cultivation paddock**. An enclosed piece of a rural property, used for the growing of crops.' (1841).

This term is Australian.

Currency: *obsolete* B&L give: persons born in Australia: Currency lads or lasses were the children of free as distinguished from convict settlers, and the term has no doubt a connection with 'current', i.e. passable any where.

AND gives '**currency 2**. A non-Aboriginal person living in Australia.' (1824).
B&L give the correct origin from coinage, the English 'sterling' as opposed to the Australian 'currency'.
This term is Australian.

Currency lass: *obsolete* use Morris's authorities and quotes.

[Morris has two citations for currency lass 1849 and 1890.]
AND 1825.]

AND gives '**currency 4**. Comb. **currency boy, lad, lass**.' (1824).
This is an Australian term. S&O'B do not use the term **currency lad** that is within the above entry for **currency**.

Curse-o-God: *bush* a slang name for a swag: this appears to be the work of some bushman who has read Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress and to have modelled the phrase after it. 'Humping the Curse-o-God' is a very apt way of describing swagging from the genuine 'looking for work' bushman's point of view. Many people treat all swagmen as if they were thieves or worse, and prefix the adjectives 'loafing' or 'begging' to swagmen. These people, no doubt, confuse the man who 'swag it' from necessity with the 'sundowners' and 'whalers' who eke out a living tramping from one place to another begging and stealing.

AND gives '**curse** Obs. A jocular name for a swag, esp. in the phr. **curse of God** (or **cain**).' (1921 to 1965).
This term is Australian.

Cut: *slang* share, commission, bribe. 'Whisperers' tip horses to backers on condition that they receive a cut out of the winnings. A boxer to 'go down,' i.e. lose, expects to get a cut out of the gate money. Possibly from 'slice'—to cut a slice of cake.

Shearing: to get a cut, to get a job or stand at a shearing shed.

[Newspaper clipping 2.1.1897 attached to A:-

It is pretty near all 'cuts' from start to finish. The clerk gets a 'cut' the registrar a 'cut' the surveyor a 'cut' to put your lot through & recommend it, and you, if you are cunning enough and have got money enough, get anything you want.]

1. OED gives '**cut** share (of profit, etc); commission; = RAKE-OFF orig. US.' (1918).

This sense is not Australian.

2. AND gives '**cut n. 2. a**. A job as a shearer.' (1895).

This sense is Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**cut** n. 2. **14.** *Irish Hist* A levy of money, a tax, an impost. Obs.' (1634-5).

This sense is not Australian.

D

Dags: the pendants of matted dirt and wool which hang about a sheep's rump. Cutting dags, or dag cutting, is considered a very hard-up job: mostly called dagging.

The Farmer's Encyclopaedia quoted in Worcester's Dictionary, vide B&L., defines darg or dargue as the quantity of peat one man can cut and two men wheel in a day. Perhaps a connection between this and corruption of tag or tags.

AND gives '**dag** 1. Usu. in *pl.* A lump of matted wool and excreta hanging from about the tail of a sheep; such a lump cut from a sheep.' (1891).

AND gives '**dag**, *v.* 1. *trans.* To remove dags from (a sheep). 2. Hence **dagging** *vbl. n.*' (1867).

This term is Australian.

The purpose of including the last three lines is unclear.

Perhaps S&O'B are trying to establish an origin for the term **dag**, by comparison of the job of collecting lumps of peat to the job of cutting **dags** from the sheep. The comment about tags again suggests conjecture about the **dags** on the end of the sheep to words on the end of the line. Neither of these possibilities is correct.

AND give the etymology as a survival of British dialect from *daglock*.

OED gives '**dag-lock** *pl.* Locks of wool clotted with dirt about the hinder parts of a sheep.' The last citation given is 1881 *Leicestershire. Glossary*.

Dago: in Australian mercantile marine, any Continental foreigner is a Dago. B&L say there is little doubt but that it comes from Diego, which is almost equivalent to Jack in Spanish ports. Thus in Australian slang all Asiatic blacks are Chuts – an abbreviation of Chutnee, a nickname given to Indians, from the preserve of that name. And Islanders are all kanakas.

AND gives **dago** '[Orig. US, a corruption of *Diego* Sp. proper name, as applied to a Spaniard; now in general use as a derog. term for a foreigner: see OED(S.) A. *n.* An immigrant (usu. male) of Latin descent; an immigrant from Europe (exc. the British Isles).' (1892).

Lighter gives eleven US citations before 1892, the first in 1832, but AND appears to be attributing the more specific meaning of 'an immigrant of Latin descent' to **dago** than the general US term.

There is no evidence for **chut** outside this material.

Damper: *Australian bush* wheaten flour bread made and used by bushmen. Damper is an invention adapted to pioneering in the Australian bush, where ovens and other cooking contrivances are unknown. Damper originally was merely a mixture of flour and water with the addition of a little salt perhaps.

Under the old station ration list of ten pounds of flour, twelve pounds of beef etc., it was usual for hutkeepers and shepherds etc. to make the whole quantity of flour into a large damper which served right through the week. Damper more often than not was a sodden heavy close mass of more or less cooked dough, which may have been the origin of its name. And by the week end the damper so often praised and sung about would bear a very close resemblance to a piece of white brick-bat, and one of its nicknames—nightmare—was often richly deserved. With the introduction of baking powder (dynamite) into the bush, damper has come to more resemble the bread of civilization. A poem published in a Colonial paper called 'The Stockwhip,' (or 'Southerly Bursters,' a book published in early Eighties by John Sands & Co, of Sydney) told of a kind of Flying Dutchman teamster (who, as a punishment for his curses was condemned to linger by a much used crossing or ford,) who made a large and unholy damper with which he wreaked vengeance on all who passed. He tried pieces of this damper, which he had made as heavy as lead, on birds, who after eating it could not fly. He then proceeded to feed passing teamsters upon it, and also to throw pieces of it on their teams, and they and their teams sank and disappeared in the river while attempting to cross. Poetic justice overtook him, however. His crimes being discovered, an irate mob of teamsters tied him to a bull-dog or soldier-ants' nest, and he perished slowly in awful torture to the groaning of the blue gums and the dismal cries of crows and curlews he had handicapped with his awful damper. The writer of this poem is the only literary person this writer ever came across who has treated the Australian damper with correct judgment.

There is only one way to bake damper properly. Having mixed flour, water, salt, and dynamite if obtainable, your fire—a large one—wants to be just burning out. Rake every particle of blazing wood or glowing coals out of the ashes—the more ashes the better. Make a cavity in the heap of ashes, lay the damper in, and cover with the hot ashes. The test of its being cooked is the showing of fissures in the covering ashes: an expert can by tapping the damper with a knife tell whether to lift it or let it cook longer. Dampers are now only seen in far-out camps and with travellers who have no utensil but their billy.

AND gives '**damper 1**. A simple kind of bread, traditionally unleavened and baked in the ashes of an outdoor fire.' (1825).

All early references to damper claim it was made without any raising agent, only flour and water, made in flat disks and cooked in the ashes. This is described by S&O'B, with the inclusion of baking powder at a later date. Morris also gives the possible origin as originating somehow with William Dampier.

AND gives the origin as 'Spec. use of Br. *damper* something which takes the edge off the appetite.'

OED give '**damper 1. b**. Something that takes off the edge of appetite.'

1804 M. EDGEWORTH *Pop. Tales, Limerick Gloves*, In the kitchen, taking his snack by way of a damper.

1811 LAMB *Edax on Appetite*, I endeavour to make up by a damper, as I call it, at home before I go out.

This seems to be a more likely origin than that given by S&O'B.

This term is Australian.

See also **Nightmare**.

Darling Pea : *bush slang* silly, mad or peculiar.

The Darling pea is an Australian herb peculiar to Central Australia. It is one of the poisonous plants, and cattle eating it become afflicted with staggers and die. So a man wandering in gait or dazed in appearance is said to be suffering from 'Darling pea.'

AND gives **Darling** '**darling pea (a)** any of a small number of species of the genus *Swainsona* (fam. Fabaceae), most being perennial herbs in inland Aust., some of which can cause stock-poisoning; **(b)** such poisoning, usu. affecting sheep, and characterised by stiffness of limbs, inco-ordination and muscle tremor; also fig., see quot. 1894.'

1894 M. ROBERTS *Red Earth* 246 When you say a man has 'got the Darling pea' you mean that loneliness and desolation—the heat of the sun, and the cursed sameness of the sunburnt plains; the lack of human society; the lack of all the natural outlets of humanity—have made him less than human, that he is mad.

The first reference to **Darling Pea** being a transferred sense to a man is in 1889.

This term is Australian.

Dart: *slang* fancy, particular liking. 'That's my dart,' is equivalent to 'that's what I am particularly fond of or wish for or like.'

AND gives **dart** *Obs.* 'A scheme or dodge; a favoured location, object, or course of action.' (1859 – 1918).

This term is Australian.

The entry for **ould dart** followed this entry in all drafts, it can now be found alphabetically in the letter O. The placement of old dart here suggests that this is S&O'B's supposed origin. The phrase 'That is what I am particularly fond of' is synonymous with 'the old country'.

Dash: *Aust*: a beer and a dash; soda and dash; the dash may be spirits, wine, syrup, etc, etc. Australia has a very wide and Catholic taste in drinks. Beer with a dash of English ale: beer with a dash of lemon syrup: with a dash of gin: soda with brandy: lemonade with sherry, whisky, port or raspberry syrup: rum and cloves: gin and peppermint: Beers, wines, spirits, aerated waters, cordials and liqueurs are all taken as dashes.

OED gives '**dash** *n.*1 **b.** A small quantity (of something) thrown into or mingled as a qualifying admixture with something else; an infusion, touch, tinge. Usually *fig.*' OED gives the citations:

1611 SHAKES *Wint.* T. V. ii. 122 Now (had I not the dash of my former life in me) would Preferment drop on my head.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 892 A thing not sincerely good, but such as hath a great dash or dose of evil blended with it.

1697 W. DAMPIER *Voy.* (1698) I. 293 It makes most delicate Punch; but it must have a dash of Brandy to hearten it.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 2, I..resolved that my Descendents should have a Dash of good Blood in their Veins.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-Bk.* I. 335 There was a dash of eccentricity and enterprize in his character.

Dampier's citation is the only one that refers to alcoholic beverage, but it is clearly a standard term.

This term is not Australian.

Dead bird: *sporting* a certainty, i.e. a horse sure to win, is known as a 'dead bird,' often abbreviated to 'a bird.'

General use: anything absolutely certain to result or occur as far as human prescience can calculate as to future events or results. Derived from pigeon shooting, the slang of which speaks of a shooter 'grassing his bird,' and of the prowess of any champion shot that 'anything he aims at is a dead bird.'

[There is a newspaper clipping 6.2.1897 attached to A:-

The man who seems very likely to get beaten goes to the 'dead bird' and stipulates for a slice of the prize money. Otherwise he will not turn up, and the other fellow will get nothing.]

1. *AND* gives **dead**, *a.* In special collocations. '2. **bird** *horse-racing*, a certainty; also *fig.*' (1889).

The sporting sense is Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**dead**, *a.* (*n.*¹, *adv.*) 2. Special combs. **dead-bird** (see quot. 1898);' *OED* gives the citations:

1892 STEVENSON & OSBOURNE *Wrecker* xxii. 349 Can't you give us 'a *dead bird' for a good trade-room?

1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 115/2 *Dead-bird*, in Australia, a recent slang term, meaning 'a certainty'. The metaphor is from pigeon-shooting, where the bird being let loose in front of a good shot is as good as dead.

The general sense is Australian.

Dead horse: *City and bush* working to pay off old debts.

When the earnings of one venture go to pay for losses in another venture either concurrent or past, the result is called 'working dead horse.' Sometimes working to 'feed' a dead horse. Paying doctors' bills, back rent, or borrowed money are cases in point. Working to 'feed' a dead horse shows imagination in the inventor of the phrase.

B&L give it as nautical—no dates—and the incongruity of horse aboard ship would lead to the belief in a landsman invention. Admiral Smyth says: When they commence earning money again there is in some merchant ships a ceremony performed of dragging round the deck an effigy of their fruitless labour in the shape of a horse, running him up to the yardarm and cutting him adrift to fall into the sea amid loud cheers. Vide B&L

a dead horse, or **to work the dead horse**: to do work which has been paid for in advance, and so brings no further profit.' (1638).

Bartlett's *Dictionary of Americanisms*. (1849) gives '**dead horse**. Work for which one has been paid before it is performed. When a workman, on Saturday night, includes in his bill work not yet finished, he is said the following week to 'work off a *dead horse*.'

Wilkes gives **dead horse, working (off) a** Working for a return that is immediately consumed in the payment of an old debt, and thus for no personal benefit. He uses citations from 1798 (Collins), 1847 (Harris), 1863 (Butler), 1898 (Red Page), 1907 (Searcy), 1932 (Hatfield) and 1945 (Ronan). All the citations refer to a debt as opposed to wages paid in advance.

AND gives '**horse 2**. [Transf. use of *dead horse* the type of that which is no longer of use: see OED *horse*, sb. 18.] In the collocation **dead horse. a**. An undischarged debt.' (1847).

The Australian sense is working to pay off a debt. The standard sense is working for wages that have been paid in advance.

The sense given by S&O'B is Australian.

Dead nuts on: 'nuts on' is old slang—to be fond of anything. Dead is a superlative prefix. It is in fact the 'Great Australian Superlative.' Dead sure, dead straight, dead spit, dead broke, etc. etc. etc.

[Newspaper clipping (undated) attached to A:-

After bursting Bilmartin's records on Tuesday at St Kilda track, Lesna (unclear) was simply 'dead to the world.')

F&H gives '**Dead on**, or **dead nuts on** (common) – Originally, having some cause of complaint or quarrel; also, very fond of; having complete mastery over; sure hand at.' (1877).

This term is not Australian, see **death on** for US evidence.

Deal-with or out: to punish or assault. *Magisterial phrase*—to deal heavily with an offender guilty of some particular offence. *Push*: deal out stoush—to violently assault, either singly or in company. To pay out or serve out is the sense of deal here, obviously derived from dealing at cards. For 'Stoush' see

[this entry is incomplete in all drafts.]

1. **deal out** OED gives '**deal**, v. **4. a**. To distribute or bestow among a number of recipients; esp. to distribute in the form of gifts or alms. Now mostly *fig.*, or with *out*: see b. (In 3 the main notion is the division into shares; here it is the giving away or bestowing.)' (a1000).

'**deal**, v **5**. To deliver or give (to a person) as his share; to apportion. Also with *out*.' (c1340).

'**deal**, v **6. b**. *esp.* To deliver *blows*. (The earlier notion was that of distributing them (as in sense 4) among several opponents or in various quarters, in all directions, now more definitely expressed by *deal about*; later, the sense

becomes either 'to give one as his portion' (as in 5), or simply 'to deliver'.)' (c1314).

AND gives '**deal**, v. *Obs.* **1.** In the phr. **to deal it out** (to someone), to attack, esp. verbally.'

AND gives '**2.** In the phr. **to deal out stoush** to assault violently.'

The citations in *AND* for **deal out stoush** are in the sense which S&O'B give as 'push'. The 'push' sense is later used by war correspondents, as a term to describe a battle.

This sense is Australian.

2. deal with *OED* gives '**deal**, v. **16. a. to deal with**: to act in regard to, administer, handle, dispose in any way of (a thing); **b.** to handle effectively; to grapple with; to take successful action in regard to.' (1469)

'**17. a. to deal with**: to act towards (any one), to treat (in some specified way).' (a1300)

This sense is not Australian.

3. There is no evidence of S&O'B's magisterial phrase.

Death adder: No doubt a pun to give the name of a poisonous reptile to a sort of bread generally of indigestible quality.

There is no other evidence outside this material and the *Bulletin* for this sense.

(The term '**death adder**, johnny cakes' is in Baker 1945. He cites the *Bulletin* 7th July 1897 as a term for damper. In 1941 and 1943 he only gives the sense '**DEATH ADDER**: A machine-gun. Digger's slang'

The 'damper' sense is not in Baker's later publications.)

Death on: *slang* very fond of or very determined on: a variant of 'dead nuts on' (the dead is a common Australian adjective). The phrase 'death on' implies a degree of absolute certainty. 'He's death on long beers' would imply a drinker who was constantly drinking long beers, in fact never refused one or drank anything else.

OED gives '**death**, n. **16. to be death on** (slang): to be eminently capable of doing execution on, or a very good hand at dealing with; to be very fond of. orig. U.S.' (1839).

This term is originally American, not Australian.

Demons: Australian *push and thieves*—detectives, i.e. plain clothes police generally. An extension of D's, which is an abbreviation of detective, in common use.

AND gives **demon** 'A police officer, esp. a detective.' (1889).

This term is Australian.

Dengue fever: In Queensland dengue fever became a stock excuse for indisposition or absence. It served as a word of ridicule if anyone was absent through drink or its effects or to suit their own ends.

[There are newspaper clippings attached to A:-

The clippings are in a deteriorated condition and are not completely legible, I have inserted [?] where I cannot decipher the word.

Undated: 7. 'Dengue', in 'dengue' fever, now prevalent in N.Q., is supposed to be derived from the Bengali *thangue*, pronounced 'though,' with the s[?] aspirated (th as in German), and meaning lame or crippled. You clearly comprehend the derivation when you get the fever.—MEDICUS.

22.5.1897 Red Page: 7.—Dengue Fever.—22/5/97. Dengue, in 'dengue' fever, derived by 'Medicus' from Bengali *thangue*, appears in Power and Sedgwick's 'English Sydenham Society's Lexicon' (the English medical standard, London, 1882) as 'probably a Spanish reproduction of the English synonym 'dandy fever.' Rudolph Matas, M.D. of New Orleans, U.S.A., where 'dengue' is as common and epidemic as measles, avers (Keating's 'Cyclopedia of Diseases of Children, Lond., 1889, v. I., p. 878), that 'dandy' fever was a term first used by the negroes of St. Thomas, West Indies, in 1827, because the intense stiffening rheumatoid pains make the sufferer walk stiffly and pompously like a dandy. In Spanish there are words *dunga* and *dengue*, and a later adjective *dengiero*, meaning 'coquettish,' 'foppish,' and 'dude', respectively. These are quite as likely origins as 'Medicus's' *thangue*. The title *dengue* was first officially adopted by physicians in the London Colleges' 'System of Nosological Classification' in 1869, and has dominated all other names for the disease. In the Sandwich Islands it is called *bou-hou* (wailing fever), from the cries (boo-hoos) of sufferers. This nasty fever has, to my knowledge, no less than 43 names.—X.Z.

A medical veteran tells me 'dengue' is a condensation of 'Aden ague'—by which name the malady was first known to the faculty. Omitting initial letters, the united remains give the word as now spelt.—TAHUNE LINAH.]

OED affirms the fever is also called 'dandy fever'.

NODE gives 'ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from West Indian Spanish, from Kiswahili *dinga* (in full *kidingapopoi*), influenced by Spanish *dengue* 'fastidiousness' (with reference to the dislike of movement by affected patients.)'

This sense is not Australian.

The newspaper articles supplied by S&O'B give the standard sense. This is not the sense of a person having a hangover which is given by S&O'B.

There is no other evidence for the supposed extended Australian sense.

Derry: B&L give: *thieves an eyeglass, hence the expression used by tailors, to take the derry—to quiz, to ridicule.*

Slang Is possibly a play on the song refrain 'Hey derry down down' 'derry' is equivalent to the slang word 'down.' It may have caught a colonial application from the faction enmity between Orangemen and Irish Catholics which was very fierce in the early colonial days. 'No Irish need apply' was a common phrase in use by the Orange section, whose favourite soubriquet was that of the 'Derry

Prentices,' after the siege of Derry Castle: a lodge at present in existence of Loyal Orange Order bears this name.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: To have a 'derry' on a man is to dislike him and to be always willing to injure him.]

B&L spell the headword **derrey**.

AND gives '**to have a derry on**, to have a prejudice against.' (1882).

OED gives '**derry** *Austral & NZ* [app. Jocular adaptation of *derry* in the refrain *derry down*.] A down esp. in phr. *to have a derry on*, to be prejudiced against.' (1896).

[Sectarianism in Australia was imported from Britain where Ireland was fighting for their independence. This was exacerbated by the dominance of the Anglican Church over the Catholic Church in Australia.]

This sense is Australian.

The B&L entry appears to be given as a possible origin of the Australian slang sense.

Devil-on-the-coals: *bush* a variant of 'Johnny-cake' or 'bugger-on-the-coals.' A quick method of baking. In place of making a large fire and waiting to cook a damper, the dough is patted out very thin and laid on the coals to cook. A kind of griddle cake.

AND gives '**devil 2**. In the collocation **devil on the coals**, a small damper.' (1862 to 1903). This term appears to have had a limited life in Australian English.

This term is Australian.

Diamond cracking: *prison and navy stone breaking*. 'He caught a month and had to white /sic? wipe/ it out at diamond cracking in Custican's Hotel.' The Aust. Printer's Keepsake. Vide B&L

No doubt a pun on the poorness of the material, and the conditions of labor in prison.

B&L give 'Australian thieves patter' instead of 'prison and navy'.

AND gives '**diamond-cracking**, *vbl. n. obs.* Breaking rocks, i.e., undergoing a sentence of hard labour; so **diamond cracker**, one sentenced to this.' (1885 and 1916).

This term is Australian.

Dibs: money, possibly an alteration of nibs or beans: also a woman's breasts. Kipling in glossary to Departmental Ditties gives 'dibs' as money—rupees.

OED gives '**dib** *n.* ². **3. pl.** A slang term for money.' (1812).

There is no evidence for the sense 'woman's breasts'.
This is term not Australian in either sense. See also **Charlies**.

(The term **dibs** is in Baker 1941 and 1943, but not after 1943.)

Digger, diggings, etc.: Morris notes, quotes, etc. not to be improved upon.

[**Morris: Digger**, *n.* a gold-miner. The earliest mines were alluvial. Of course the word is used elsewhere, but in Australia it has this special meaning.

Diggings, *n.* a place where gold-mining is carried on. The word is generally regarded as singular. Though common in Australia, it is very old, even in the sense of a place where digging for gold is carried on.]

AND gives **digger** (1849), and **diggings** (1851).

AND gives '**digger**. [Spec. use of *digger* a miner, esp. one working the surface of shallow deposits (see OED 2 a); orig. U.S. in its application to gold mining.] 1. A miner on the Australian goldfields.'

OED gives '**digger** 2. *spec. a.* A miner, especially one who works surface or shallow deposits.' The citations are British, from 1531 to 1661.

'**b.** esp. One who digs or searches for gold in a gold-field. Also attrib.'

The citations in *OED* commence in 1853 (Aust.). Four of the six citations are from Australia.

Craigie and Hulbert give **digger** in this sense 'A miner who works at shallow or surface deposits.' (1817).

This sense is transferred from US, but is especially significant in Australia.

OED gives '**digging** 4. **a.** A place where digging is carried on, an excavation; in *pl.* (sometimes treated as a *sing.*) applied to mines, and especially to the gold-fields of California and Australia. Also with prefixed word, as **gold-diggings**, **river-diggings**, **surface-diggings**, etc. **dry-** or **wet-diggings**.'

OED gives more American citations than Australian for this entry.

AND gives **diggings** as Australian, transferred from the American gold fields.

Morris is correct that the term is old, but the evidence in *AND* suggests the spelling **diggins** was more common than **diggings**.

This sense is transferred from US, but is especially significant in Australia.

Dilly bag: *bush slang* used by swagmen and sundowners. The bag in which they carry needles, buttons, thread and many other little things useful to them: an aboriginal bag or basket, originally plaited of hair, grass, feathers, etc.

AND gives '**dilly bag** 1. **DILLY** *n.*' (1867)

AND gives **dilly** *n.* 'Also **dilli**. [a. Jagara *dili* coarse grass, a bag woven of this.] An Aboriginal bag or basket made from woven grass or fibre.' (1830).

AND gives '**dilly bag** 2. *transf.* A bag of any sort, usu. small.' (1906).

This term is Australian in both senses.

Ding-bats: don't know anything about this: the phrase occurs in Bulletin, 'Political ding-bats.'

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Sounds like a corruption of 'dead-beats.']

S&O'B do not provide the cutting, so it is difficult to know what the entry may have been.

AND gives '**dingbat** 1. A simpleton; a halfwit.' (1918).

OED gives '**dingbat** 2. a. A foolish or stupid person; someone crazy or insane; also used as a general term of disparagement. Chiefly U.S.' (1911).

OED gives '**dingbat** 2. b. Austral. and N.Z. In pl., esp. in phr. **to have the dingbats**, **to be dingbats**, to be mad, stupid, eccentric; also, to be a victim of delirium tremens; **to give** (a person) **the ding-bats**, to inflict a feeling of nervous discomfort.' (1918). (NZ)

Assuming that S&O'B intended the same meaning as AND this term appears to be Australian.

Dirt: Morris

[**Morris: Dirt**, *n.* In Australia, any alluvial deposit in which gold is found; properly *Wash-dirt*. The word is used in the United States.]

AND gives '**dirt**, *Obs.* Orig. U.S.: see OED *sb.* 3 b. and Mathews.] The alluvial soil or gravel from which gold is separated by washing; wash dirt. Also *attrib.*' (1852).

OED gives '**dirt**, *n.* 3. c. The material from which a metallic ore or other valuable substance is separated; esp. the alluvial deposit from which gold is separated by washing; = WASHDIRT.' (1857).

This term is transferred from US, but is especially significant in Australia.

The U.S. evidence uses the term dirt as an element in compound words such as **washdirt**, **paydirt** and **topdirt**, rather than the term **dirt** alone.

Dish: *slang* to mar a plan, to defeat an adversary. He's dished i.e. beaten or done, probably from culinary phrase, to dish up, to serve a dinner when cooked: cooked, done, baked, are all synonymous with dished in a slang sense.

OED gives '**dish** v. ¹. 7. *trans. slang.* To 'do for', defeat completely, ruin; to cheat, circumvent. [From the notion of food being *done*, and *dished*.]' (1798). This term is not Australian.

Dispersed-al-ing: A euphemistic phrase invented to politely describe the methods of wholesale murderous decimation practised to relieve back-block runs of the tribes of aboriginals. In Queensland the scandalous tales told of dispersals are many, and several Australian writers have used the facts as literary capital.

Westralia is the last province which is rapidly coping with the nigger difficulty. A peculiarity of the whole business is that the most active agents in the dispersing of tribes have been the semi-civilized black troopers or trackers. These, armed often merely with a tomahawk, have been a great help to scoundrelly masters in wiping out their fellow-countrymen. That dispersing has been carried out without causing a world-wide outcry is not to be wondered at. The dispersers always had an excuse of a retaliatory kind to explain their murders. Spearing cattle, robbing homesteads and huts, and offering resistance when pursued would be a good and valid reason in law for wiping out a few niggers—a few being an enumeration of uncertain quantity, possibly a tribe. Pioneer bushmen though have often helped the dispersal in self-defence. In the Barcoo, Cooper's Creek, and other Queensland out-regions, of the Sixties the blacks were a really dangerous and treacherous foe, and many pioneers missing have no doubt succumbed to the native spears.

This is a journalistic comment on dispersing in Westralia in 1897:

[Newspaper clipping (undated) attached to A:-

Apropos ? John Morley's recent remarks in the House of Commons:- The native problem in the Nor'west (W.A.) should soon disappear, owing to the nig. Supply running short. A few months ago two natives, after the attempted murder of a white man, joined their own tribe. Result: Police declared war against the tribe, killed six at the first encounter, and, following them up, three more three days afterwards. The two men who were wanted, as usual escaped, but the police found that those killed were all 'noted murderers and cattle stealers,' besides having 'associated' with the two delinquents. Another murder occurred on the Fitzroy River recently; result, two nigs. Killed and several (number unknown) wounded—no policemen hurt. Black troopers 'obeyed instructions (?)'. Again the murderers escaped. It is unhealthy to be a nig in the north if there has been any spearing done recently. Pathetic telegrams from the scene of the outbreak appear in the Perth papers, expressing the hope that the police authorities in Perth would not interfere before the nigger-drive was brought off. The authorities did not interfere, and the next telegram was to the effect that 'arrangements had been made for finally dispersing the gang if the Perth authorities concur. The Perth authorities concurred.]

AND gives **disperse** (1805), **dispersal** (1836) and **dispersing** (1892).

These specific senses are Australian.

This entry provides a postdating for the derivative **dispersing**, last recorded in 1903, and a derivative **disperser** that is not in *AND*.

Divvy: an abbreviation of dividend: common use to express winnings or share profits. *Sporting*: a tote or totalisator term, the dividend paid to backers of the winning horse (see Tote.)

AND gives '**div**—[Abbrev. Of *div(idend)*] A sum of money, esp. as won from a bookmaker.' 1891.

OED gives '**divvy**, (**divi**) *n.* Colloq. abbreviation of *DIVIDEND*. Hence *divvy v. colloq.*, to 'go shares'. Freq. to *divvy (up)*, to *divide (up)*. 1872 in *Amer. Speech*.'

The term **Divvy** is standard, the Australian term is **div**.

Doctor: *bush slang* a nickname for the station cook: see poisoner.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Also a drink. The morning pick-me-up of the overnight drunkard is called the doctor.]

1. *AND* gives '**doctor**, *n.* ² [Transf. use of *doctor* ship's cook or (U.S.) cook in a logging camp.] One who cooks for shearers, etc., on a station.' (1868).

This sense is Australian.

2. For the A & B sense, 'a morning pick-me-up' B&L gives **doctor** (old) a decoction of milk & water, rum & a spicing of nutmeg.

OED doctor n. 10. Something used to 'doctor' or adulterate food or drink; e.g. a liquor mixed with inferior wine to make it more palatable, or with light-coloured wine (as sherry) to darken it; hence, a name for brown sherry. (*slang* or *colloq.*) 1770.

There is one citation in the ANDC files from *The Bushman or Life in a New Colony* (1847).

'This "doctor" – a character universally esteemed by travellers in these parts, was a tumbler of milk from the cow, tintured with Brandy.'

There is no evidence to support S&O'B's sense of a morning pick-me-up.

Dodger: *printers* a small handbill for street or house to house distribution.

[There is a *Bulletin* newspaper clipping attached to A:-
7 8.1897 (Red Page).

Loaf of Bread. 'Dodger.' Common in NSW. Settled districts. Query: from 'Dodging the baker'—begging a loaf of bread?]

AND gives '**dodger**, *n.* ¹ [U.S. dodger a small handbill or circular.] An advertising leaflet, esp. one carrying political propaganda.' (1891).

OED gives '**dodger n.** 3. U.S. A small handbill or circular.' (1884).

Lighter gives '**dodger n.** 1. a handbill or flyer.' (1879).

The specific Australian sense is the use of the flier for 'political propaganda.'

AND gives '**dodger, n.** ² [U.S. (*corn*) *dodger* small cake of corn-bread: see Mathews.] Bread.' (1897).

OED '**dodger n.** 2. a. U.S. A hard-baked corn-cake.' 1831.

'b. A sandwich; bread, food. *Austral.* and *Services' slang*. Also *dial.* (cf.

DODGE n. 2. 1919. [**dodge n.** 2. North. *Dial.* A large irregular piece, a lump.]

This term is Australian.

Dog: to dog a man—to hound him down, to follow him, to keep bullying him at work. A variant of 'to hound,' i.e. to hunt or pursue a man. To turn, to turn around on a person from friendship to enmity: to inform on him or injure his interests.

[A & B add after this entry: Dog: *slang* When a person affects to be superior to his fellows he is said to be put on dog. Syns: Affectation, style, 'side' which see.]

1. *OED* gives '**dog** 1. *trans.* **a.** To follow like a dog; to follow pertinaciously or closely; to pursue, track (a person, his footsteps, etc.), *esp.* with hostile intent. Also with *out*.' (1519).

This term is not Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**dog** *n.*¹ 3. **e.** An informer; a traitor; *esp.* one who betrays fellow criminals. *U.S.* and *Austral. slang.*' (1846).

AND gives '**dog** *n.*² [U.S. *dog* informer, traitor: see *OEDS sb.* 3 *e.*] **a.** An informer; one who betrays colleagues or changes allegiance; chiefly in the phr. **to turn dog (on)**.' (1848).

This term is Australian.

3. (A & B only) *OED* gives '**dog** *n* 1. **p.** **to put on dog**: to assume pretentious airs. *colloq.* Hence *dog* (ellipt.), pretentiousness, 'side' (1871). (This citation is U.S.). *OED* does not state that it is American, but Lighter gives '**dog** 6. **a.** ostentation of style; airs.—usu. constr. with *put on [the]*.' (1865).

The slang definition given only in A & B is American.

Dog-leg: comes under fences.

This entry is obviously meant to give a definition for **dog-leg fence**. However, there is no entry for fences included in the dictionary.

AND gives **dog-leg** *a.* 'Of a fence: made from logs laid horizontally on crossed supports.' (1836).

This term is Australian.

Dog in the blanket: Jam or currant roly-poley pudding. *Bush and nautical*.
B&L give: dog's-body *naut* a kind of pease pudding.

OED gives '**dog** *n* 1 **dog-in-a-blanket**, a rolled currant dumpling or jam pudding (*colloq.*);' (1867).

OED gives '**dog's-body** 1. A sailor's name for dried pease boiled in a cloth;' (1818).

These terms are not Australian. The B&L citation for **dog's-body** is included to show origin for **dog-in-a-blanket**.

Done over: *vulgar* seduced. 'She's been done over.'

OED gives '**do** *v.* 50 **e. do over** To copulate with; to seduce. *slang.*'

This term is not Australian.

Don't cry: [there is no entry for this in any draft.]

There is no other evidence for this term.

Don't cry, summons him': [there is no entry for this in any draft.]

There is no other evidence for this term.

Dook-me: *Aust, thieves and push* shake hands with me.

B&L give: Dukes or dooks—hands, from gypsy Duk Dook which refers to palmistry. 'It's in his dook,' i.e. 'it is in his fate,' become 'it is in his hand.'

OED gives '**duke** *n.* 7. *slang.* The hand or fist. *Usu. pl.* Also **dook.**' (1874).

There is no evidence for the term **dook-me**.

This term is not Australian.

Double-bank: *general* to double load, as two men riding on one horse: to work anything over its regular capacity or strength. *Nautical deriv.* Double bank or row of oars—bank of oars in galleys—double bank, two men to each oar.

1. AND gives '**double bank**, *v.* [Transf. use of *double-bank* to double, orig. of rowers either in pairs or two to an oar.] 2. *trans.*, becoming *absol.* [In Br. use but apparently more common in Aust.] To yoke on (a second team of bullocks or draught-horses) in circumstances where one is inadequate. Also as *vbl. n.*' (1863).

'3. *trans.*, becoming *absol.* To carry (a second person) on a horse or bicycle. Also with horse as obj.'

OED gives '**double bank** *v.* 1. *trans. a. Naut.* To provide with two rowers on one bench for each pair of opposite oars, or with two rowers for each oar. **b. transf.** To work or pull with two sets of men, horses, etc. (e.g. a rope with men on both sides, a dray with a double team of horses);' (1832)

OED gives '**double bank** *v.* 2. *intr.* To ride two on a horse, bicycle, etc. Also *trans.*, to ride (a horse, bicycle, etc.) thus. Chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*' (1888).

This sense is Australian.

2. There is no evidence for the sense of 'to work anything over its regular capacity.'

Dover: B&L give: hotel a rechauffe, a corruption of 'do over' or 'do over again.' Hash. Australian *bush slang* provisions, food: probably a corruption of 'flashing your Dover' which see.

There is no entry for **flashing your dover** in this material.

AND gives '**Dover**. *Obs.* Also **dover**. [Proprietary name.] 1. A clasp knife.' (1870).

AND gives '**Dover** 2. In the phr. **to flash one's Dover**, to open one's clasp knife, spec. to begin a meal.' (1872).

This phrase is Australian.

AND gives '**Dover 3.** *transf.* food.' (1885).

This term is Australian.

The quote from B&L appears to be given as a possible origin for the Australian senses. This is not the case, as it is clear the origin of the term came from the proprietary name of the clasp knife.

Down on a man: to have and to display enmity, aversion or prejudice towards a man: to cherish and gratify a grudge towards a man. Criminals speak of certain police officers having a down on them. Pupils accuse teachers of the same thing. A fixed unalterable and unreasonable intention to injure any person is a 'down.' See 'derry.'

B&L give as Aust. Convicts—to inform, and quotes Vaux's Memoirs as follows: To put a down on a man is to give information of any robbery or fraud he is about to perpetrate so as to cause his failure or detection.

AND gives '**down 2.** A strong objection (towards a person, etc.); a grudge. Freq. in the phr. **to have a down on** (or **against**).' (1828).

This is an Australian term.

S&O'B are correct when they suggest the phrase comes from British criminal cant.

Drop: *slang* to drop down is to understand, to be aware of. A common perversion of understand is 'undercunstumble', to tumble to, to drop down to, to drop.

OED '**drop**, v. **9. b.** Slang phr. **to drop (down) to** or **on (to)**: to come casually or accidentally to knowledge of (something); to understand, become aware of, recognize. Also *absol.*'

1819 VAUX *Vocab. Flash Lang.* 168 To drop down to a person is to discover or be aware of his character or designs.

1859 G. MATSELL *Vocabulum* 54 The copper..could not drop to my chant or mug,..the officer..could not recollect my name or face.

1876 *Coso Mining News* (Darwin, Cal.) 3 June 4/6 Drop on yourself Lent, you are out of season.

1886 *Lantern* (New Orleans) 6 Oct. 2/2 The crowd dropped to his little game.

1887 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 2/3 The boys..ain't never dropped onto the way of Ed Vaz.

1888 'R BOLREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* I. x. 118, I could see him..watching me when I put on the whole box and dice of the telegraph business. He 'dropped', I could see.

Lighter gives '**drop** v. **4 a.** Orig. *Und.* to become aware of; discover.—constr. with *to* or *on* [*to*].' (1812). The first citation is from Vaux, which is the suggested origin. The next citation, which is the first U.S. citation, is the *Nat. Police Gaz.* (1846).

Lighter gives '**drop** v. **4 b.** to understand.' (1877).

The first citation in both *OED* and *Lighter* is from the convict lexicographer James Hardy Vaux. As there is no British or U.S. evidence before 1819 this term appears to have originated in the colony of New South Wales. This term is Australian.

(The term **drop** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not later than 1943. It is in EP1967 dates 1909 Ware. Partridge does not give this term as Australia.)

Drum: a brothel or assignation house: a disorderly house or one devoted to drinking, gambling and debauchery. Kettle-drum is an old English name for an evening party of the fashionable sort.

B&L give: Break-o'-day drum, a tavern which is open all night.

AND gives '**drum**, *n.* ³. [Spec. use of *drum* (usu. disreputable) house, lodging place, etc.: see *OEDS sb.* ¹ 9 e.] A brothel.' (1879).

OED gives '**drum** *n*1. 1846 *e. slang*. A house, lodging-place, or other building; esp. (a) *U.S.* a drinking-place, saloon, night-club; (b) a brothel, low dive; (c) a room or flat.' The citation for a brothel is dated 1872.

F&H gives as **DRUM** '4. (old) FLASH-DRUM=a brothel.'

Lighter gives **drum** (US) 'a place, a house or establishment.' (1851).

Since *Lighter*'s citations predate the citations in *AND*, it appears *AND* is claiming that it is the specific reference to a brothel which is exclusive to Australia. The citation relating to drum being a brothel in *OED* is dated earlier than the first citation in *AND*. This term appears to have been used in England and America before it was used in Australia.

This term is not Australian the entry in *AND* should be reconsidered.

Drummer: *slang* a nickname for commercial travellers. Probably a play on their carrying samples somewhat after the style of swagmen carrying a drum. 'Commercial travellers' is a bush nickname for swagmen.

1. As a commercial traveller, *AND* gives '**drummer** *n.* ² *Obs.* [U.S. drummer commercial traveller: see *OED* 2.] 1. **a** A commercial traveller.' (18860).

OED gives '**drummer** 2. *fig.a.* One who solicits custom or orders; a commercial traveller; cf *DRUM* v. 5 and 6b. orig. *U.S.*' (1827).

Bartlett's *Dictionary of Americanisms* (1849) gives '**Drumming**, in mercantile phrase, means the soliciting of customers. It is chiefly used in reference to country merchants, or those supposed to be such. Instead of patiently waiting for these persons to come and purchase, the merchant or his clerk goes to them and solicits their custom.' Bartlett refers to these merchants as **drummers**.

This term was used in America sixty years before Australia.

This sense is not Australian.

2. As a swagman, *AND* gives '**drummer** *n.* ² *Obs.* [U.S. drummer commercial traveller: see *OED* 2.] 1. **b**. One who 'humps his drum'; a swagman.' (1898).

'OED gives '**drummer 2. fig. d. Austral. and N.Z. slang.** A swagman or tramp.' (1933).

This sense is Australian.

3. Both the entry in this material and the first of the citations in *AND* (1886) refer to **commercial traveller** as a swagman, **Commercial traveller** in this sense is not a separate entry in this material.

The term **commercial traveller**, in the sense of being a swagman, is Australian.

Dry-blowing: *Westralia mining term* a method of extracting gold from washdirt or pulverizes cement. Its invention and use are owing to the want of water on the many West Australian goldfields. The alluvial dirt is held up and shaken in a sieve or thrown up in the air. A current of air—wind, or artificially produced—blows away all the lighter matter, and the gold falls into a prepared receptacle: of no use in obtaining fine gold, only suitable for grainy, coarse, or shotty gold or the nuggets known in W.A. as slugs.

[B gives: 'grainery', hand corrected to 'grained.'

[Newspaper clipping 13.11.1897 attached to A:-

On the fields of W.A.

Where 'dry-blowing' is the play,

And the 'girls' are like the 'boys' are—having such a taking way, etc

Coolgardie, July, 1897.]

AND gives '**dry blowing, vbl. n.** The process by which a current of air is used to separate particles of a mineral, esp. gold, from the material in which it is found.' (1881).

S&O'B are correct about the term originating in WA, as the majority of the early citations came from WA.

This term is Australian.

Dry hash: *culinary* in contradistinction to hash proper, which partakes more of the qualities of a stew. A dry hash is generally baked. One method of making dry hash is to utilize cold meat and potatoes with whatever seasonings are at hand: the materials are chopped up and baked. Fish dry hash may be made with potatoes or rice boiled, after which a tin of preserved fish is served through the mass. Dry hash as originally produced in the Sydney hash foundries (cheap restaurants) was of the first kind: a dish still worse as a rule than original hash. Hash itself has come to be synonymous with leavings, rubbish, odds and ends, scraps.

AND gives '**hash attrib.** To designate a cheap eating house, boarding house etc., or one who works in such an establishment.' (1892).

The citations in *AND* use **hash girl, hash houses & hash foundries**.

OED gives '**hash**, *n.*¹ 1. Something cut up into small pieces; *spec.* a dish consisting of meat which has been previously cooked, cut small, and warmed up with gravy and sauce or other flavouring.' (1662-3).

OED gives '**hash**, *n.*¹ 3. **a.** A mixture of mangled and incongruous fragments; a medley; a spoiled mixture; a mess, jumble. Often in phr. **to make a hash of**, to mangle and spoil in attempting to deal with.' (1735).

There is no evidence for the phrase **dry hash** as opposed to hash warmed in gravy.

Hash in the sense of 'leavings, rubbish, odds and ends, scraps' is not Australian.

Dry hash: *slang* mean, morose, dull. B&L give as Australian:- A man who will not shout is dry hash.

The word also applies to persons or parties or entertainments that are dull. A girl would describe a dull partner as 'dry hash.' This has origin in the culinary term.

F&H give '**DRY-HASH**, *subs.* (Australian) – A miser; or BAD EGG; also, by implication, a loafer.' (1887).

There is little evidence for this term. This appears to be the sense implied by B&L for 'A man who will not shout.'

There are two citations in the files of the Australian National Dictionary Centre:

The Daily Telegraph 3 October 1919.

'Mr Windeyer pointed out that one could not play a "dry-hash" game, if he were betting on the blind.'

The meaning of the term in this citation is unclear. Perhaps the meaning in this quote is 'dull'.

All the Year Round 30 July 1887.

'In Australian parlance the "sundowner" may further be described as a "dry hash," or a "stringy bark," that is, a ne'er-do-weel, a fellow not good for much, or, as our American cousins would say, a "mean cuss."'

This is the citation used by F&H.

Neither citation adds enough evidence to prove existence of the term in Australia.

Duck-shoving: *thieves* poultry stealing, a form of petty theft sneered at by higher grade thieves. Peter-nicking,—till stealing: and snow-dropping—clothes-line robbing, are similar thieves' slang.

There is no evidence for S&O'B's sense of **duck-shoving**, although **peter nicking** and **snow dropping** are common.

Duff: boiled pudding. *Bush and nautical*. Probably a foreigner's pronunciation of dough, on the same plan as laugh, or a comic pronunciation of dough.

OED gives '**duff**, *n.*¹ **a.** Dough, paste. (*dial.*) **b.** A flour pudding boiled in a bag.; a dumpling.' (1840). '[orig. a northern pronunc. of DOUGH : cf. *enough*.]' The origin given by S&O'B is correct. This term is not Australian.

Duff: B&L *thieves* spurious. Men at the duff—passers of false jewelry: to duff—to sell spurious goods, often under the pretence they have been smuggled, stolen or found. Cattle duffing in Australia, owing to the large pastoral interests, has always been treated as a crime equal to manslaughter. Sentences are very heavy for this offence, and it has originally been the first cause of the outlawing of the majority of the middle period bushrangers. Nevertheless squatters have often been accused of this same offence. In fact it was considered more clever than criminal by many squatters to 'sneak' their own brand on to a neighbour's unbranded cattle or 'cleanskins.' Like 'stolen gold dealing' cattle duffing is credited with being the origin of the wealth of many wealthy Australians. The taunt, however, being very cheap, is often used and unjustly so.

AND gives '**duff**, *v.* [f. DUFFER *n.* 1.] **1.** *trans.* To steal (stock).' (1859). *AND* gives '**duffer** *n.* [Transf. use of *duffer* one who deals in counterfeit goods; that which is counterfeit or 'no good'.] **1.** One who steals stock (and alters brand marks).' (1844). This sense of the term **duff** is Australian. The quote from B&L may given be to provide the standard sense of **duff** in order to determine the origin. S&O'B do not appear to suggest this sense is Australian.

Duffer: *mining* a shaft which when bottomed gives a prospect containing no gold, or one in which the quality of gold is too small to pay for driving and working out is called a duffer. 'Bottomed a duffer' is a common diggings phrase.

2. Duffer repeats in this sense B&L's Yiddish derivation *see duffing*. A cattle duffer must be clever and unscrupulous. Duffer also means fool, an awkward, clumsy, or ignorant person—not madman, but one who ought to do or know better.

B&L: a worthless person, stupid, awkward, or unskilful man, a coward. In this latter sense the word is connected with daffo, Anglo-Saxon, a fool; daff, a coward; daffam, a silly person; daft, of weak intellect.

1. *AND* gives '**duffer** *n.* **2.** **a.** An unproductive mine or claim.' (1855).
2. *AND* gives '**duffer** *n.* [Transf. use of *duffer* one who deals in counterfeit goods; that which is counterfeit or 'no good'.] **1.** One who steals stock (and alters brand marks).' (1844). This term is Australian in senses 1 and 2. The reference to B&L in sense 2 is a summary, but B&L do not give any reference to cattle stealing.

3. *OED* gives '**duffer**, *n.*² *colloq.* and *slang*. **1.** . *colloq.* **a.** A person who proves to be without practical ability or capacity; one who is incapable, inefficient, or useless in his business or occupation; the reverse of an adept or competent person. Also more generally, a stupid or foolish person.' (1842).
There is no evidence that the third sense is Australian, and is perhaps included to show a possible origin.

Duffing: Aust. Bush—cattle lifting or stealing, either by direct theft or making a fair title to them by altering the brands. B&L give: In Yiddish every word which means clever also means roguery: Yiddish doffer—is a shrewd, clever, very crafty man. Doffer, Dutch thieves' slang—a tramp, a seller of forged pictures. B&L give for duffing (?duffer) two meanings. A rank swindler, a clever cheat, much in use in 1701 to express cheats of all kinds.

AND gives '**duffing**, *vbl. n.* [f. DUFF *v.*] **1.** The action or practice of stealing stock (often involving the alteration of brand marks).' (1865).

This term is Australian

There is no evidence that the third sense is Australian, and is perhaps included to show a possible origin.

Dukets: Aust. *thieves*,—tickets. A corruption of ticket and possibly ducat, which is theatrical (vide B&L) for money.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Duket snatching see Brief-snatching.]

B&L give '**Ducat** (theatrical), coin, cash of any description.'

OED gives '**ducats** also **ducket** (theatrical) cash of any description.' (1871).

OED gives '**b.** (Also **ducket**.) A ticket, esp. a railway-ticket or ticket of admission. Cf. DOCKET *n.*¹ 7. *slang*.'

Lighter gives '**ducat 2.** a ticket esp. for transportation or admission.' (1871).

This term is not Australian.

Dummy: a fictitious or sham free selector. By the Colonial Land Acts most of the big stations or squattages are held on leasehold or occupation license. A further step in legislation allowed settlers to go upon certain areas of these leases and select blocks for homesteads or farms. The conditions demanded continuous residence and a certain value of improvements every year till the term of provisional occupation expired, when if all payments were made the selector became an absolute freeholder. The whole intention of the 'selection' legislation was to induce and encourage bona-fide settlers and farmers. But these provisions were taken advantage of by the squatters to obtain further freehold at a nominal cost. A station employee would select conveniently for his principal. He would erect a hut, and to all appearances live on the area. He would continue to work on the station, and on completion of his term would assign his freehold to his master for a small consideration. Any improvements made would be a part of the original station plans. Fences would continue or branch off so as to agree with the paddock plan of the original station. The other improvements would most likely

be a dam, valuable to the station in itself, and probably ringbarking of any existing timber. The same men selecting over and over again and the freeholds secured by certain squatters aroused public interest in the swindle, and various commissions and inquiries left the matter practically where it was. It was alleged that pauper inmates of Government Asylums were actually procured and installed as free selectors, and tales are told of squatters having only one set of furnishings and utensils which were carted along to the many dummy selections, ahead of the Government Inspector.

AND gives '**dummy**, *n.* 1. *Hist.* [Spec. use of *dummy* one who is the tool of another.] One commissioned to select a block of Crown land on behalf of another not entitled to do so. Also *attrib.*, esp. as **dummy selector**.' (1865). This term is Australian.

Dummyism: this was the name given to the whole practice.

AND gives '**dummyism**. *Hist.* the practice of dummying.' (1865). This term is Australian.

Dummy: B&L: *popular* anything fictitious or sham: also a clown's assistant who outclowns his principal *Aust*, *circus slang* generally in dumb show or pantomime.

F&H give '**DUMMY** '2. (colloquial).—Generic for sham substitutes for real objects.' (1845).

There is no evidence for 'clown's assistant'

This term is not Australian.

Dunlop: [no entry for this in any of the three texts.]

[Newspaper clipping 7 8.1897 (Red Page) attached to A:-

Mutton—'Dunlop' New Slang. Used mostly on the Darling and Western border of Q—Dunlop is one of the largest sheep-runs on the Darling, and owners give liberal quantities of mutton to travellers.]

There is no evidence for the term **dunlop** as an alternative to the term 'mutton'.

(Baker 1945 gives: '*Dunlop*, mutton ... commemorates the name of one of the largest stations on the Darling River where, according to the 'Bulletin' of 7 August 1897, 'the owners gave liberal quantities of mutton to travellers'. There is no other evidence for this word, even in Baker's other publications. Baker used the same newspaper clipping as S&O'B, or simply took this from S&O'B.)

Dust: *bush slang* for flour. It is possible to overgrind flour and to destroy its grain. Overground flour is said by millers to be killed, and known as dust. Mill dust is all the sweepings from the mill. A pint of flour was the regulation station ration given to swagmen. No doubt many miserly squatters were not above buying and keeping inferior flour for travellers, who gave it the nickname of dust, and by transference it has become general for all flour. 'Go up and try the cook for a bit of dust' is common bush vernacular. It may also have caught the name from gold dust, in consequence of the way it was doled out—as if it were gold dust.

AND gives '**dust** 2. *Fig. a. Flour.*' (1878).
This term is Australian.

Dutch auction: a cheap-jack auctioneer's method of selling to evade the licensing fee or the after-sundown restriction. A quibble by which he does not sell to the highest or any bidder, but starts it at a high price and keeps bidding it down himself till he meets a buyer.

OED gives '**Dutch**, *a., n. (adv.)* 4. Characteristic of or attributed to the Dutch; often with an opprobrious or derisive application, largely due to the rivalry and enmity between the English and Dutch in the 17th c. Often with allusion to the drinking habits ascribed to the 'Dutch'; also to the broad heavy figures attributed to the Netherlanders, or to their flat-bottomed vessels. Sometimes little more than = foreign, un-English. **Dutch auction** (so **auctioneer**).' (1859).

This term is not Australian.

Dynamite: *bush slang* baking powder: no doubt from rising qualities common to both. In a large part of Australia brewer's yeast is unobtainable. The substitute is baking powder, a compound made variously of cream of tartar, bicarbonate of soda, and tartaric acid—down to, in adulterated kinds—burnt alum, lime, or chalk. It is similar to American saleratus. The work of a bush humorist no doubt remarking that a certain cook's bread would require dynamite to make it rise.

AND gives '**dynamite**. Baking powder.' (1898).
This term is Australian.

E

Eagle-hawking: *bush slang* in times of drought when sheep are dying the practice is for the station hands to go out and either shear the dying sheep or to pluck the wool off the dead carcasses. Derivation probably corruption and transference from 'tomahawk' to shear sheep badly, showing shear cuts in the wool or skin—and wool-hawk, a fast bullocking rushing shearer, a ringer in fact.

There is no evidence for **eagle-hawking** outside Morris and S&O'B.

(EP takes **eagle-hawking** from Morris. In relation to this term, Ramson (1966 p24n) asserts 'Partridge retained little used slang or colloquial words which were recorded by Morris.' Baker has **eagle-hawking** in all publications. There is no other evidence for this term.)

Early risers: *bush slang* blankets or rugs carried in a swag: generally applied to old, worn, or thin blankets, perhaps from their lack of warmth inducing a camper to arise and light a fire or start walking early to get warm.

There is no other evidence for this term.

The only other evidence is for a bushman who gets out of bed early in the day because the blankets are thin. This does not define early risers as the blankets used by bushmen.

(The term **early risers** is in all Baker's publications.

EP 1967S takes from Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Eastralia: a name for New South Wales fashioned after the manner of Westralia and Centralia: used in South Australia and West Australia, but not generally.

There is one citation in ANDC's files for this term:

Eastralian—November 8 1950 *Bulletin*.—'The only poisonous snake around Perth that I know of that will attempt to enter a house is the dugite ... This snake is the western counterpart of the Eastralian brown snake, and it's deadly.'

There is an internal citation in *AND* under the entry for *Centralia* (1896).

The term **Eastralia** is in all Baker's publications. Baker 1945 has, 'In 1894 a writer asked in the 'Bulletin': 'Why not *Eastralia*, *Norstralia*, *Soustralia*, *Westralia* and *Centralia*?' Baker asserts that three terms survived, Westralia,

Eastralia and Centralia, although Westralia is the best known.' McMillan dictionary (1912) gives: 'East-ra-li-a' the eastern parts of Aust. esp. NSW.

There is enough evidence to include this term in *AND*. Without using the citation in S&O'B, there are citations from 1894, 1896, 1912, 1945 and 1950. This term is Australian.

Engineering underground: *Political slang:-* secret intriguing to gain an advantage or benefit. Akin to 'pulling the wires.' An influential or powerful politician who works in the dark to obtain power or overthrow an adversary would be an underground engineer.

There is no Australian evidence for this term outside this material. The term **underground engineering** is within the text of the entry for the term **slither** in this material.

OED gives '**underground** *a* and *n* 4. *fig. a.* Hidden, concealed, secret.' (1677 to 1886).

OED gives '**engineer** *v.* 3. *a.*; **engineering**, contriving, scheming.' (1681).

This term is self-evident.

F

Fag: a cigarette, a cockney abbreviation of faggot no doubt on account of cigarettes being first sold in bundles.

OED gives '**fag** *n.* 4. **a** *slang.* **a.** The fag-end of a cigarette. **b.** A cheap cigarette.' (1888).

This term is not Australian.

S&O'B's suggested origin is incorrect. *OED* gives 'Of obscure etymology; the common view that it is a corruption of FLAG'

Fake: *slang* a prearranged boxing, sporting, or other contest is called a fake: a pretence, a swindle, or fraud.

Generally: fake—to alter: faked accounts: faked returns: faked goods. Common use—any article may be a fake: fake in this sense means thing. Obviously from gypsy 'fake,'—mush-fake, an umbrella mender.

[A & B leave out: Obviously from gypsy ...mender.

A & B add to the end of the entry: Grose gives: Fake—to rob, to kill, to alter, to counterfeit, to simulate.]

OED gives '**fake** *n.* 2. **1.** An act of 'faking'; a contrivance, 'dodge', trick, invention; a 'faked' or 'cooked' report. Passing from *slang* to *colloq.* in the sense of 'a counterfeit person or thing'. (1827).

This term is not Australian.

Fan: *thieves' slang* see B&L Female thieves who practice picking pockets call 'running the rule' over a man they are talking to 'fanning him.' They stand very close and while keeping his attention search his pockets. Mostly practised on tipsy men.

The entry in S&O'B is not a copy of B&L.

B&L gives '**Fan** (thieves), to steal from the person. (Prov. Cumberland), to feel, to find.'

B&L gives '**Run the rule over** (prison), to search a person for stolen property or contraband articles.'

B&L gives '**Fanning** (thieves), a beating, also stealing.'

Lighter gives '**fan** *v* **3.a.** [perh. alter. of earlier BrE criminal slang *fam*, with similar meaning; for exx. see Partridge *Dict. Und.*] *Und.* to feel or touch (the pocket of a victim) for the presence of money or valuables; (*broadly*) to rob in this manner. Also as *n.*' (1847).

This sense is not Australian.

Fan: thieves a waistcoat, vide B&L

Hotten gives '**fan** a waistcoat.—*Houndsditch term*.'

Lighter gives '**fan** ¹*n.Und.* a vest.' (1839). The first U.S. evidence is 1859.

This sense is not Australian.

Fanning: Cross-fanning: from B&L Hotten gives—from the position of the arms in the act. B&L give—thieves robbing a person of his scarf-pin.

B&L spell the term **Cross-famming**.

Hotten gives '**fanning**, a beating. also stealing; **cross-fanning** is stealing with the arms crossed so as to distract attention, as in stealing breast-pins, &c.'

This term is not Australian.

Fatty: *bush slang* or fat-cake,—bread or cake made with the addition of fat in some form. Brownie is almost synonymous with fatty.

AND gives '**fat cake** [orig. Br. dial.]' (1852 and 1888).

Wilkes (1996) gives five citations for **fat cake**, 1827, 1844, 1847, 1855 and 1900-1910 (S&O'B).

This term was obsolete before this material was compiled.

There is no evidence for the term fatty.

Fell to pieces: *vulgar slang* meaning that the woman alluded to has undergone confinement in childbed.

OED gives '**fall v. 27. b. to fall in two, to pieces:** (Sc.) to give birth to a child; cf. 40c. *Obs.*' (1781).

This term is not Australian.

Fell down stairs: the same meaning.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Fettle: *racing and common* in good fettle, in good condition, well trained. Adaptation of fettling, the keeping of a railway line packed, ballasted, etc. The maintenance men on the railways are known as fettlers.

OED gives '**fettle** *n.* 2. 1. Condition, state, trim; in phr. (*to be*) *in* (*good, high*, etc.) **fettle**. Also in *pl.* the points, 'ins and outs' (of anything); but this may belong to FETTLE *n.*¹ ' (1750).

EDD gives '**fettle** (sense 7) Sc. Ir. & England – general use. Condition, state, order, repair esp. in phrase *in good fettle*.' (1870).

S&O'B are incorrect about the origin of the term as the term is older than the railways.

AND gives '**fettler**—[Spec. use of Br. dial. *fettler* navy] One of a party of workers responsible for the maintenance of a section of railway track.' (1887).

The term **fettle** is not Australian. The term **fettler** is Australian.

Fin: a £5 note. B&L give *thieves* from Germ-Jewish *finnuf*: it is a pronunciation of *funf* peculiar to Yiddish.

OED gives '**fin** £5 note.' (1868).

The origin is correct. This is an example of a word being copied from B&L with no evidence of Australian usage. B&L give different spellings, Finn, finnap, finnap.

This term is not Australian.

First Families: *journal* almost synonymous with aristocracy, the leading people of wealth and position. Behind the expression lurks a sneer contained in its resemblance to First-Fleet—the first convoy of military settlers and convicts to arrive in Australia. The slur is at the common parentage and beginning of many of our First Families. Popularly it is supposed, even believed, that the majority of our First Families' antecedents were of convict grade. Bulletin, 10.7.97:- It was noted by many members of our first families that the visiting book was not as freely expurgated as of yore.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **first families** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but not in 1959. It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Fiz-gig: *thieves* a police tool, often a criminal of minor degree allowed to be at liberty and ply his own vocation in consideration of his supplying the detectives or police with information as to the persons, whereabouts, plots, plans, achievements, etc, of his fellow criminals. Fiz—probably a corruption of quiz, to look: gig—to gig is thieves' slang to look; 'gig lamps' is slang for spectacles.

AND gives **fizgig** '[Prob. transf. Use of *fizgig* frivolous woman, one who gads about.] a police informer.' (1895).

OED gives '**fizgig** *n.* 6. An informer. *Austral. slang*.' (1902).

S&O'B's origin is incorrect, although a corruption of quiz (see below) is an understandable assumption.

Hotten gives 'quiz, to pry, or joke; to hoax. **gig lamps** spectacles. **gig** fun, frolic, a spree.'

This term is Australian.

Flag, Australian: B&L give—*Flag popular an apron.*

Morris quotes and notes.

[**Morris: Australian flag**, *n.* Hot climate and country work have brought in a fashion among bushmen of wearing a belt or leather strap round the top of trousers instead of braces. This often causes a fold in the shirt protruding all round from under the waistcoat, which is playfully known as "the Australian flag." Slang.]

S&O'B give the B&L citation as an explanation of the origin of the term, likening the protruding shirt to an apron.

See also the entry for **Australian flag**.

This term is not Australian.

Flies: No flies on him or it *Aust. Slang* means that the person or object is free of faults or blemishes: that he is clever, cute, intelligent, and is not to be caught napping.

'In this sense,' Hotten says, 'flies is a softening of lies.' I am inclined to think it is a shopkeeper's phrase expressing the freshness or newness of stock exhibited, no dust or fly marks. Its general meaning has widened till 'No flies' has reached a level with 'Dicken' 'Rats,' etc.

B&L give: *trading* trickery, nonsense. No flies – without humbug, seriously, in this sense says Hotten.

Hotten gives '**Flies** trickery, nonsense. "There are no FLIES about me, sir." Softening of lies.'

AND gives '**fly**, *n*¹. 2.a. [With ion now also used elsewhere.] In the phr. (**there are**) **no flies on** (or **about**), (there is) no lack of alertness, astuteness, competence or energy in (a person); no fault to be found with.' (1845).

OED gives '**fly** *n*¹. 1. g. **there are no flies on**: (a) there is no lack of activity or astuteness in (a person); there is no fault to be found with, there are no blemishes in; (b) there is nothing dishonest or 'shady' about (a transaction). So **to have no flies on**, etc. *slang* (orig. *Austral.* or *U.S.*).

The earliest examples indicate that the phrase was prob. orig. applied to cattle that are so active that flies do not settle on them.' (1848). [Aust.]

The first citation in Lighter is also 1848.

The two earliest citations are from 1845, these citations are Australian. This suggests, although the term is used elsewhere, **no flies on** originated in Australia.

Flounder: *Sydney cab-drivers' slang* a hansom cab of the old variety in contradistinction to the new or brougham cab. Probably from its broad and awkward shape in comparison to the high and stylish modern cab.

EP 1967S gives '**flounder**, n.—2. short for *flounder and dab*—since ca. 1905, of a taxicab.'

Green gives '**flounder, flounder & dab** = cab. [mid 19th C] common place.'

The term flounder derives from flounder and dab, which is rhyming slang. S&O'B's origin is incorrect as they appear to compare the shape of the hansom cab to the flat shape of the fish.

Partridge and Green do not attribute the term to Australia.

There is no other evidence for the term **flounder** in Australia.

Flush: having plenty of money: a flush in poker or cribbage is a hand of all one suit: refer flash to this.

OED gives '**flush** a.¹ 3. a. Plentifully supplied (esp. with money). Const. of, (in, with.) Of money: Abundant, plentiful.' (1603).

This term is not Australian.

Flute: *slang jockeys or other horsemen* a whip.

General slang, to flute—to talk: a fluter would be a verbose person. To pass the flute—is a request similar to pass the kip *gaffing school* i.e. to allow another person a chance to talk.

[A.& B add after 'whip': To put the flute on a horse is to flog him.]

1. There is no evidence for the term **flute** as a whip.

2. AND gives '**flute**, n. In the phr. **to be** (or **get**) **on the flute**, to monopolize a conversation, to 'hold the floor'. Also **to hold** (or **pass**) **the flute**.' (1896).

3. There is no other evidence for the phrase **pass the kip**.

(The term **flute** is in Baker (as a whip) 1941, 1943 and 1945, but does not include it after this time.)

Flying handicap: mostly a short five or six furlong sprint in horse racing. *Slang* an attack of diarrhoea or dysentery which keeps a person going to the yard is known as the Flying Handicap, sometimes as the Back Door Trot.

There is no other evidence for the extended sense of this term.

(The term **flying handicap** in the slang sense is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not after 1943.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Footback: walking, travelling on foot: humorous opposite to horseback: other signs are 'on shank's mare,' 'the pony pa gave me.'

OED gives '**footback** Obs A humorous formation after *horseback*. Chiefly in phr. **on** (or **a**) **footback** = (travelling) on foot.' (1589 to 1630).

This term is not Australian.

Forties: larrikins: gangs of men and youths who congregate about streets and public places, often getting into crime or mischief. Probably from Ali Baba, or the Forty Thieves. A police name for the pickpockets et hoc genus. In Hindmarsh, Adelaide, in the late Seventies and Eighties there was a particular crowd of roughs known to all and sundry as the Forty Thieves, and the particular aversion of magistrates and police. One magistrate, the late S Beddoes made heroic efforts to break up the gang.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Forties in Sydney preceded Larrikins as a name for the street prowlers, gamblers thieves etc.]

AND gives '**forty**, Obs. Usu. in *pl.* [Of unknown origin.] A sharper, a swindler; orig. a member of a gang in Sydney ... Also **forty thieves**, and *attrib.*' (1876). This term is Australian.

Fossicker: free selector. Morris quotes etc not to be beaten.

[**Morris: Fossicker**, *n.* one who fossicks, sc. works among the tailings of gold-mines for what may be left.]

AND gives '**fossicker**. Also **fossiker**. 1. One who fossicks for gold.' (1852). Morris's meaning only.

There is no evidence for a free selector being called a **fossicker**. The definition appears to be a mistake. In the entry for **cookie** S&O'B give:

'Though 'cookie' practically covers every settler under the status of squatter, it more especially applies to the small selectors who hold from forty up to one hundred and fifty acres of land.'

This suggests S&O'B know the correct definition of a free selector.

Morris's sense of the term **fossicker** is Australian.

Fossils: *political nickname* The Upper Houses in Australia being all either nominee or elected on a high property franchise, are popularly considered to be a strictly conservative element. Their almost consistent opposition to all democratic measures and any measure of advanced kind has won for them the title of 'fossils.' They are supposed to be as unalterably fixed in their ideas and persons as if they were indeed fossilized.

OED gives '**fossil**, *a. and n.* **3.** Applied contemptuously to persons, ideas, etc.: Belonging to the past, out of date; 'petrified', incapable of growth or progress.' 1859.

This term is not Australian.

Fox, to: *thieves* to tout, follow, or stalk anyone without being observed: to pretend to be simple or not alert: foxing—pretending sickness etc.

OED gives '**fox** *v.* **1. a. trans.** To play the fox for; to compass by crafty means (*obs.*). **b. intr.** To play the fox, dissemble, sham. Now *dial.* and *slang.*' (1602). Lighter gives '**fox** *v.* *Und.* to watch or follow closely.' (1848).

Neither sense of the term is Australian.

Free-lance: an unattached journalist who writes up matter on the off chance of acceptance or payment. A member of the staff who writes independently of the policy of his paper.

OED gives '**free lance** **2.** Hence **free-lance** *v. intr.*, to act as a free lance; **free-lancer**, a free lance; **free-lancing** *vbl. n.* and *ppl. a.*'

1903 A. BENNETT *Truth abt. Author* *v.* 60 What in Fleet Street is called 'free-lancing'.

This term is not Australian.

Frying-pan brand: *slang* a large, clumsy or conspicuous brand on horses or cattle. This was a favourite ruse of cattle duffers to cover original brands. A large solid brand, the burning in of which would obliterate or confuse the previous brand.

AND gives '**frying-pan**, *attrib. a.* Special Comb. **frying pan brand**, a crudely applied brand used by a cattle thief to efface the rightful owner's brand.' (1857).

This term is Australian.

Function: *social* a reception; a wedding, a show, a garden party, musical evening, and any social event, is a function.

AND gives '**function**. [Spec. use of *function* religious or public ceremony, social gathering conducted with form and ceremony.] An organized social gathering, not necessarily characterized by great ceremony.' (1910).

Other earlier citations for this term are:

C. Martin's *The Silent Sea*, (1892)

'There was a long, vivid description of a journey to Kandy and back—of a reception and dinner at Government House, and various other social functions, at which the vanity of cliques and the pretensions of little-great officialdom and its wives and daughters were noted with an unsparing pen.'

W.C. Dawe's *The Confessions of a Currency Girl* (1894)

'Still he would sometimes appear rather unexpectedly and upset the little functions at South Yarra, such as a quiet little dinner with Mr. Keestone, or a jaunt to the races with that young gentleman.'

A. Cambridge's *Sisters*, (1904)

'The wedding was a great family function and county event.'

This term is Australian.

G

Gagger: Sydney cabmen's slang, a driver who evades the regulations compelling him to remain on some stand till hired; instead of which he touts about the streets on the chance of a hail from a fare:

Also an unlicensed driver or new chum.

B&L give: gager, a man, and says in all probability its derivation is from gypsy—gorgio, one who is not a gypsy.

OED gives '**gag** *n.* 3 **a.** *trans.* To deceive, take in or impose upon (a person), to ply with talk, to 'stuff'. **b.** *intr.* To practise imposture. **to gag on:** to 'round' on, inform against.' (1777)

OED gives '**gagger** *v.* 3 *v3* One who 'gags', cheats, or hoaxes.' (1781).

This term is not Australian. If it was used in Australia, it would seem more likely that this comes from the common sense of a cheat, applied to taxi drivers.

Gallied: frightened, nervous, curred, not game.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Possibly derived from gallus or gallowsed or from galled—let the galled jade wince --]

OED gives '**gally** *v.* **a.** *trans.* To frighten, daze, scare, startle. Now only *dial.* and in the whale fishery. Also *dial.* to scare away.' (1605).

Hence '**gallied** *ppl. a.*' (1787) 'GROSE Prov. Gloss., Gallied, frightened. Exm.'

OED gives two Australian citations:

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* II. iii. 48 They seemed awfully gallied about being stuck up and robbed of it [sc. gold].

1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xix. 318 Look here, Alec. I was wondering if you could come and have a look at a little job I've got that I'm a bit gallied about.

There is further evidence of the use of this term in Australia. This may be one of the terms from British dialect which survived longer in the colonies than in the county of origin. *OED* shows two of the last three citations are from Australia.

The citation from Tennant appears to be used in an historical context, rather than testimony to general use of the term in the mid-20th century.

The two following examples show the use of the term in the early-20th century.

E.J. Brady's *The Ways of Many Waters* (1909).

If 'ell is as 'ot as they tell us,

We need n't be gallied by that,
The devils will strike when they smell us
A-rendering up of our fat!

J. Furphy's *Such is Life* (1903).

No mistake, Moore looked a bit gallied on it; an' he hum'd an' ha'd, an' threatened to brain Tregarvis if he laid a hand on the hide.

There is evidence that Furphy corresponded with Stephens, who was the editor of *Bulletin Publishing* at the time, on Australian terms for this material as noted in the Chapter.

Gees: *slang* sharpers, confederates: the men who pretend to buy from or bet with cheap-jacks or swindling gamesters. An adaptation of 'gee' as used to start horses: to gee up the customers or mugs, to encourage or start them to buy or bet.

OED gives '**gee** v. 2. c. To incite, encourage; *spec.* to entice or encourage (the public) to patronize side-shows, etc., at a fair (cf *GEE* n.³).' (1898).

OED gives '**gee** n. 3. The accomplice of a cheapjack or showman. Also **gee-man**.'

1898 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 17 Dec. (Red page), A gee is their outside confederate, who 'gees up' the mugs for them.

1928 *Daily Express* 19 Dec. 2/7 'Ricks' or 'gees': people who mingle with the crowd to arouse their enthusiasm.

1941 K. TENNANT *Battlers* xiii. 141 'I'm geeing for him, and I'll fix it.' The busker's spirits fell again. In the show world a 'gee-man' or 'micky finn' was socially on the level of a duck's feet. He is the man who goes out in the crowd and touts for custom.

1959 *News Chron.* 16 Nov. 5/3 Strategically placed in the crowd, the 'gee men' started the bidding going.'

AND gives '**Gee-man**. One who encourages the public to patronize side-shows at a fair.' *AND* cites Tennant 1941 and Baker 1966.

The 1898 citation in *OED* is from the article 'Jack Shay' 17 December 1898 in the *Bulletin*, which was written by Steve O'Brien. The quote from Jack Shay reads, 'A *spieler* or *guy-a-whack* is a professional sharper or kronk bookmaker; while a *gee* is their outside confederate, who "gees up" the mugs for them.'

This citation applies to a bookmaker's off-sider not a showman's off-sider. The *OED*'s citation is misleading as it does not include the reference to the bookmaker. Therefore Tennant is the only evidence for the term applied to a showman, and this is the only sense which is claimed to be Australian.

The term **gees** is not in Baker 1941, 1943 or 1959, but it is in Baker 1945. Baker derived his entry from Tennant, not from S&O'B as the terms he took from S&O'B are in his earlier works. It is clear from correspondence between Baker and Tennant, held in the Mitchell Library in Sydney, that her source was Tex Morton, a sideshow entrepreneur. As Baker took the term from Tennant his source is also Tex Morton.

There is other evidence for this sense of the term **gee** in ANDC files. Two citations refer to showmen and are from 1991 and 2001.

The only evidence for a 'racecourse' sense of **gees** is from 'Jack Shay' and this material, both written by Steve O'Brien.

There is insufficient evidence to establish this term is Australian.

Gibber: *slang* a stone or piece of road metal: 'to shot a gibber' would mean to throw a stone: derived from aboriginal word gibber, a stone.

Morris's authorities on aboriginal sense and quotes good.

AND gives **gibber** 'Formerly also **gibba**. [a. Dharuk *giba*. See also KIPPER *n.*¹]

1. A stone; a rock or mass of stone; a boulder. In early use applied chiefly to a large outcrop of rock or boulders.' (1790).

This term is Australian.

Give best: *schoolboy, afterwards general* in schoolboy parlance to give best in a fight is equivalent to acknowledging defeat to admit having been bested. General meaning: to cease, an effort to overcome or do anything.

[A & B add: Syns, turn it up, chuck up the sponge, sky the towel—pugilistic.]

AND gives '**give**, *v.* **2.** In the phr. **to give** (someone, something) **best**, to acknowledge defeat by (a person, set of circumstances, etc.).' (1888 to 1978).

This term was obsolete by 1920. The last citation in AND is in a historical context.

Giving lip: *common* to be impertinent, to give impudence, to answer back:

OED gives '**lip** *v.* **1.2.c.** To insult, abuse, be impudent to (someone). *dial.* or *colloq.*' (1898).

This term is not Australian.

Give it lip: to shout out or speak up.

OED '**lip** *v.* **1. 2.a.** To pronounce with the lips only; to murmur softly. **b.** To take upon one's lips, to utter (? *obs.*); (*slang*) to sing (a song).' (1789).

'**c.** To insult, abuse, be impudent to (someone). *dial.* or *colloq.*' (1898).

There is other Australian evidence of this phrase, as shown below:

E. Dyson's *Rhymes from the Mines* (1896).

All together. Now you've got him. Gently does it. That's O.K.

Scalded! Yes, and right arm broken. Pass some brandy, one of you.

Cheer, ye devils! Give it lip, lads. He's alive and kicking, too!

J.A. Barry's *Steve Brown's Bunyip* (1905).

Give it lip, man!' shouted a gigantic digger, whose beard reached almost to his waist. 'Give it lip, an' let's hear what it's all about.'

B. Baynton's *Human Toll* (1907).

Now then, let 'im go, Golligah. Give it lip!' he shouted, but the silence continued. 'Waitin' for me, I suppose, t' give you a leg up.

L. Stone's *Jonah* (1911).

"Yer'd catch yer death o' cold if yer washed yer own," she cried; and the two passed out of sight, tittering. Chook turned to his mates.

"She kin give it lip, can't she?" said he, in admiration.

The term **give it lip** is also in C.J. Dennis's *Tales of Ginger Mick* (1916) and *Songs of the Sentimental Bloke* (1915).

There is enough Australian evidence for this phrase to be labelled Australian.

(The term **give it lip** is in Baker (to talk vociferously) 1941, 1943 and 1945.

Baker cites C.J. Dennis but does not use the term after 1945.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Go alone: to act on one's own account: to fight or play a 'lone hand.' 'To go alone' or 'play a lone hand' is an expression used in playing euchre *cards*. In a four-handed game one player orders his partner to turn down his cards and allow him to play the two opponents single handed; a double score is made if he is successful.

[A & B leave out: 'if he is']

OED gives '**go v. 42.c. to go it alone:** to act by oneself, without support or assistance; hence **go-it-alone** adj., characterized by independent action.' (1842).

This term is not Australian.

Government stroke: *slang* The conditions of Government labour in the Colonies are far more liberal than in contractors or private employ. Bullocking and rushing are not as a rule practised, and the taunt of 'Government stroke' is hurled by people who favour slavery and sweating and the grinding of the last ounce out of their employees. By corruption the words have come to mean a lazy or loafing stroke.

AND gives '**government** *n.* and *attrib.* [Of Austral. significance because of the proliferation of Comb. and Special Comb., perh. reflecting the nature of the role played by colonial governments in the settlement of Australia.] **4.** Special

Comb. **stroke** (orig. of a convict; now freq. of a public servant), a deliberately slow pace of working.' (1842).

This term is Australian.

Graft: B&L give: to graft is a provincialism for 'to dig,' graft being a trench. This derivation is supported by the French 'piocher,' to work hard, literally to dig.

Aust. Slang: work, employment.

[B adds to the end of the entry: Grabin—grub—grave.]

There seems no reason for S&O'B to have included the B&L entry. They omit the first part of B&L's entry which reads:

'**Graft** (prison and popular), work; to *graft*, to work.'

AND gives '**graft** work of any sort, esp. demanding work.' (1853).

OED gives '**graft** *n.* 4. **a.** Work, esp. hard work. **b.** A trade, craft.'

1853 J. ROCHFORD *Adv. Surveyor N.Z.* v. 47, 'I could make more money by 'hard graft', as they call labour in the colonies.'

This term is Australian.

Three alternative terms only appear in draft B. They are **grub** and **grave** which are both common terms meaning 'to dig', but there is no evidence for the third **grabin**.

Green-hide: untanned skins. In country places where leather is not obtainable or facilities for or knowledge of tanning do not exist, green-hide is made to serve all the purposes to which leather can be put. It is also on account of its toughness used as lacings in machinery belts. Greenness is in the sense of not having been cured.

AND gives '**greenhide** [In Br. use from 1577 (see OED *green*, *a*, 9c.) but of special significance in Aust;] untanned hide.' (1845).

OED gives '**green** *a.* 9. **c.** Of a skin or hide: Raw, untanned, unseasoned. (**green hide** is freq. written with a hyphen or as a single word, esp. when used attrib.).' (1577).

This term is not Australian.

The term greenhide applied to whips may be the special significance given by AND. The term was commonly used in the colonies for whips, ropes and lacings.

Gridironing: a method of land selection, Crown grant or purchase, arising by choosing alternate areas to receive actually more than right, the intervening parts, not being free of access, remaining practically useless to any one else. Gridiron railways are those built by private capitalists under a land grant concession: they work the gridiron principle in taking up their grants so as to gain an additional advantage.

DNZE gives '**gridiron**, v. [f. n. ¹] *trans.*, occas. *absol.*, and often as a *vbl. n.* Usu with reference to early Canterbury, to buy (strips of a run or pastoral leasehold) in such a way as to prevent any practical use of the intervening strips by another person.' (1876-1983).

This term is from New Zealand.

OED gives '**gridiron** v. *trans.* To mark with parallel lines or a pattern suggesting the form of a gridiron; said *esp.* of railways with reference to their appearance on a map. Also *fig.*' (1832).

There is no evidence for privately built railways.

Groper: *slang* a nickname for West Australian citizens: an abbreviation of sandgroper. The name alludes to the sandiness of West Australia generally and the slow conservative manners of its people. Applied by Victorians and New South Welshmen, whose customs and habits of bustle and business were a revelation to the West Australians during and following after the gold rushes of '90-'91-'92.

AND gives '**Groper**, n. ² and *attrib.* [Abbrev. of SAND-GROPER.] **A. n.** A nickname for a non-Aboriginal person native to or resident in Western Australia, esp. an early settler or a descendant of an early settler.' (1899).

This term is Australian.

Grubbing: *agriculture* clearing the roots and stumps of dead or felled timber from virgin land. For this purpose fire, explosives, axes, spades, mattocks, etc. are used. A very heavy and laborious work, and in cases where the timber has been large, a very expensive one.

OED gives '**grubbing** *vbl. n.* ¹ 1. Digging; the uprooting of stumps of trees, etc.; the clearing of ground of trees, weeds, and the like.' (1440).

This term is not Australian.

Gully: a small valley or deep gap between hills or in open country. Obviously a corruption of gullet: vide Morris's authorities and notes.

Gully: see Morris.

[**Morris: Gully**, n. a narrow valley. The word is very common in Australia, and is frequently used as a place name. It is not, however, Australian. Dr. Skeat ('Etymological Dictionary') says, "a channel worn by water." Curiously enough, his first quotation is from 'Capt. Cook's Third Voyage,' b. iv. c. 4. Skeat adds, "formerly written *gullet*..."]

There are two entries for **gully** in all drafts of the text.

AND gives '**gully**. [Extended use of *gully* ravine, small gorge: see OED(S *sb.*¹ 2.] **1.a.** A ravine; an eroded watercourse; an elongated water-worn depression; a (small) valley.' (1793).
This term is Australian.

Gully-raker: a long whip used by bullock drivers: the lashes of the bullock drivers' whips are often as much as fourteen feet long. When teams are often composed of as many as fourteen or sixteen yokes of bullocks the uses of a long whip are obvious.

AND gives '**gully-raker**. *Obs.* **1.** A cattle-thief; one who engages in gully raking.' (1840).
This term is Australian.

Gumsucker: see Morris.

Perhaps from wattle gum, which with bush children, in districts where wattle flourishes, is a natural confection which they 'bleed' the trees to obtain: a palatable gum.

2. Gumsucking *slang* kissing or courting.

[**Morris: Gum-sucker**, n. slang for Victorian-born, not now much used; but it is not always limited to Victorians.]

1. AND gives '**gumsucker**. A nickname for a native-born, non-Aboriginal Australian; a Victorian.' (1827). [the 1827 citation gives the same origin as S&O'B.]

2. There is no evidence for the second (*slang*) sense.

The first sense of the term is Australian.

Gun: *thieves* a thief, more particularly a well dressed thief or spieler: a humorous alteration of rifle—to rob.

Aust. thieves a pickpocket or confidence man: obviously a twist of the word rifle—to plunder or rob.

OED gives '**gun** n.¹ **13.** *slang.* A thief; also 'rascal', 'beggar'.' (1858).
This term is not Australian.

Guy-a-whack: *slang* 1. General: a guy-a-whack tradesman is one who is not thoroughly competent to do his work.
2. sporting: a welsher or defaulting bookmaker.
3. Guy-a-wack, to run away, to do a guy. Possibly founded on Guy Fawkes. Equivalent to 'cut your stick' or 'do a get' or 'make a bolt.'

There is no evidence for senses 1 and 2 outside this work.

3. *OED* gives '**guy** v.⁴. *slang. intr.* To go off, run away. Also with *off*.' (1879).

AND gives '**guy a whack** To decamp, to take (oneself) off, to abscond.' (1882).

This is an Australian term, an extension of the standard term **guy**.

(The term **guy-a-whack** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. Baker 1945 gives 'obs. (adj.): Incompetent, bungling. As a noun, a defaulting bookmaker, a welsher.'

EP 1967S gives '**guy-a-whack**, Incompetent; hence, defaulting bookmaker: Australian low: C. 20. B., 1942.'

Partridge combines meanings 1 and 2.

It is likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

H

Halves system: a development of the agricultural industry in Australia. Farmers work on tribute: landlord leases them the ground and finds seed, tools, horses, etc.; the farmer ploughs, reaps, etc, and the landlord takes a portion equivalent to the facilities he has provided.

Halves system: cutting explains.

There is no cutting included with the first draft.

There are two entries in the base text.

AND gives '**half** a. In the phr. **on (the) halves, for halves:** see quot. 1845.' (1829).

1845 D MACKENZIE *Emigrant's Guide* 106 A sheepowner .. will have no difficulty in meeting a respectable stockholder, who will receive and graze his sheep on what is called *halves*; that is the grazier receives yearly one-half of all the wool, and one half of the increase from the flock.'

This term is Australian.

Hand, old: convict sense, Morris gives well.

But 'old hand' in modern usage is any old settler or colonist, not necessarily a convict.

[Morris: **Hand Old**, *n.* one who has been a convict.]

1. AND gives '**old hand** 1. A convict with long experience of life in a penal colony (as opposed to one newly arrived); an ex-convict.' (1826).

2. AND gives '**old hand** 2. An immigrant with some experience of life in Australia (as opposed to one newly arrived).' (1839). '**old hand** 3. One who has had long experience of an activity, occupation, or place.' (1846).

Both senses of this term are Australian.

Hang up: to hang up, i.e. to tie up a horse. Morris gives.

AND gives '**hang**, *v.* 1.a. trans. Usu. with **up**: to tether (a horse).' (1859). This term is Australian.

Hang up your hat to: that is, to make matrimonial overtures to a lady, is in common use.

OED gives '**hang** v. 29.b. *to hang up one's hat*: see quotes.;

1888 ELWORTHY W. *Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., When a man marries and goes home to the wife's house to live, he is said to 'hang up his hat'.

F&H gives '**TO HANG UP ONE'S HAT**, verb. phr. (common).—1. To die.' '2. (common)—To make oneself permanently at home.'

None of these entries are the same as the above entry.

There is no other evidence for the term in the sense given by S&O'B.

Hang up or hung up: to cease working, to suspend operations: mostly used in connection with mining batteries. When a crushing battery is not working the stamps are kept suspended clear of the battery floor.

AND gives '**hang** intr. With up: to stop work, esp. in shearing.' (1891).

This term is Australian.

Hard case: a term used by policemen and police court habitués: an old or constant offender for drunkenness or other misdemeanours. A magistrate asking if anything is known of a prisoner, i.e. his record or of the personal knowledge of the court officials, 'a hard case, your Worship,' would imply many previous convictions.

Applied also to an inveterate joker or coit.

[A & B give: 'wit']

1. and 2. AND gives '**hard case** [transf. use of US *hard case* hardened criminal. (OED(S. a.7)] a character; one who does not conform; an incorrigible (drinker, liar, eccentric, etc.).' (1892).

OED gives '**hard** a. (n.) 7.a. **hard case**, a difficult case to treat or deal with; a person that cannot be reclaimed, a hardened criminal, a 'bad lot'. orig. U.S. In Australia and New Zealand, an amusing or eccentric but adventurous person, a 'character';' (1836).

S&O'B give both the American sense of a hardened criminal and the Australian sense of a 'character.'

This term is Australian.

3. There is no evidence for the sense of an inveterate joker.

Hard stuff: spirits, as opposed to lemonade, lime juice, and waters and cordials of the temperance kind, which are called soft stuff.

AND gives '**hard stuff** [used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.], spirituous liquor.' (1832).

OED give '**hard** a. (n.) 14.c. Intoxicating, spirituous, 'strong'. *colloq.* orig. U.S.' (1789).

As an extension of the term hard drink or cider, this term is Australian.

Hard stuff: same in meaning.

[A & B read: same in meaning as (2)]

The entry is given twice in the base text. The second entry follows the entry for **hard tack** without any spacing. The reference to the meaning (2) is the transferred sense of hard tack the biscuit to alcoholic beverages. See entry below.

Hard tack: *nautical*, biscuit: transference to alcoholic beverages as distinguished from soft tack or non-alcoholic drinks.

[B has (2) superscripted above 'transference']

OED gives '**hard tack** Ship-biscuit; hence, ordinary sea fare in general. Also, hard bread or biscuits generally. Also *fig.* and *attrib.*' (1836).

There is no evidence for the 'alcoholic beverages' sense outside this material.

Hash-juggling: waiting in a restaurant: a humorous commentary on the ability of waiters in carrying a number of dishes at once. Some waiters strive to excel in carrying a number of orders at once, which very much resembles the actions of a stage juggler with plates etc.

OED gives '**hash** *n.*¹ **6.hash-slinger** *U.S. slang*, a waiter or waitress.'

1868 *Gold Hill News* (Nevada) 6 May, The nice young man of Washoe may or may not be some kind of a clerk, a *hash-slinger, or a check-guerrilla. 1895 W. C. GORE in *Inlander* Dec. 116 *Hash-slinger*, table waiter. 1946 *Amer. Speech* XXI. 86 The cooks and 'hashslingers' of former years went off to war or to the shipyards.

The citations in *OED* do not refer to juggling dishes.

This is a variant of the U.S. term. There is no other evidence for this form.

Hash-foundry: humorous skit on boarding houses, which are supposed to have as their principal business the compounding of hash.

AND gives '**hash** Used *attrib.* to designate a cheap eating house, boarding house, etc., or one who works in such an establishment.' Two of the citations, 1898 and 1945, give the term **hash-foundry**.

OED gives '**hash** *n.* 1. **6. hash-house** chiefly *U.S. colloq.*, a cheap eating-house, boarding house, etc.; also *attrib.*;' (1869).

This term is a variant form of the American term **hash house**.

Hat, old: a diggings and general nickname for sexual intercourse.

DVT gives 'old hat—a woman's privities: because frequently felt.'
OED gives 'old hat . *n.* 1. *slang.* The vulva. Also: sexual intercourse; a woman regarded as a means of sexual gratification. Now *arch.* and *rare.*' (1697).

This term is not Australian.

Hatter: Morris good.

[**Morris: Hatter.** (1) A solitary miner—miner who works without a mate partner: sc. one who has everything under his own hat.
(2) By extension to other professions.]

1. *AND* gives '**hatter a.** *Mining.* A miner who works independently (rather than in partnership).' (1853).

2. *AND* gives '**hatter b.** A rural worker pursuing a solitary occupation; a single man; a misanthrope; an eccentric.' (1872).

This term is Australian.

Haze, to: *nautical,* to bully—alter orders—to work and worry a crew persistently, to work them blind or into a fog, altering and countermanding till they hardly know what to do or what they are doing.

[B alters altering to ordering.]

OED gives '**haze** *v.*¹ 2. *Naut.* To punish by keeping at disagreeable and unnecessary hard work; to harass with overwork.' (1840).

This term is not Australian.

Head-collar: *horsey* a headstall or halter for a horse is known as a head-collar.

[B gives: horses.]

OED gives '**head** *n.*¹ 74. **head-collar**, the leather headstall of a horse;' (1890).

This term is not Australian.

Heading: mining term for a tunnel driving along a lead or reef or seam.

OED gives '**heading** *vbl. n.* **11.** A horizontal passage driven through in preparation for a tunnel, for working a mine, or for draining, ventilating, or other purpose; a drift or drift-way; also, the end of a drift or gallery.' (1819). This term is not Australian.

Heading 'em: the game of pitch and toss: a gambling game in which two pennies or other coins are spun in the air, is known as 'heading 'em.' The reason is because the winning hazard is the facing up of the two heads, i.e. the Queen's effigy.

A man making and saving money is said to be 'heading them.'

1. *AND* gives '**head**, *v.*² *Two-up*. **2.** As ppl. (and n.) phr. in the collocation **heading them:** the playing of two-up; the spinning of two coins so that they fall head side upwards. Also *ellipt.* as **heading.**' (1871).

This term is Australian.

2. There is no other evidence for the second sense.

Hedge: thieves' cry or warning: heard by racecourses. Monte men and other gambling touts cry 'hedge' on the approach of police or detectives.

[*B* gives before thieves' cry or warning: Hedge: *providing against a loss:*

A & B add to the end of the entry: Derived from betting practice of hedging bet i.e. to lay portion of your bet back on other chances so as to be sure of winning something or providing against a loss.]

1. Hotten gives '**Hedge**, to get away from any dangerous spot. "We saw the slop coming, and HEDGED at once."

The first sense seems to be related to this sense given by Hotten.

This sense of the term is not Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**hedge** *n.* **5. spec.** *Betting.* The act of hedging; a means of hedging. Also *Commercial, Financial, and transf.*' (1736).

OED gives '**hedge** *v.* **8. a. trans.** To secure oneself against loss on (a bet or other speculation) by making transactions on the other side so as to compensate more or less for possible loss on the first. Formerly also with *in, off.*' (1672).

This term is not Australian in either sense.

A herring across the trail: *political journalese* to interpose a side issue or introduce a new topic to draw attention away from the main issue. Hounds will follow the strong scent of cured herrings—in fact a drag, or imitation fox hunt may be laid with red herrings or aniseed. The metaphor is very apt—to drag a herring across the trail and take the hounds and hunters astray.

OED gives '**red herring** **2. b.** *to draw a red herring across the track:* to attempt to divert attention from the real question.' (1884).

This term is not Australian.

Highflyer: old Australian slang—a name for the most stylish demi-mondaines. The Sydney Highflyers.

OED gives 'high-flyer 2. One who soars high in his aims, ambitions, notions, etc.' (1663).

This term is not Australian.

Ho-ki: Chinese salutation: used for good-day in Chinese quarters of Australian towns.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Holy City: Adelaide. With quote in Morris.

AND gives 'Holy City. A nickname for Adelaide, the capital city of South Australia.' (1908).

This term is Australian.

Home: England, Ireland, Scotland, or any other country, are all spoken of in Australia as 'Home' according to the nationality of the speaker. Particular sense both of native born and foreign England is meant.

AND gives **home** 'A. n. Applied to the United Kingdom, esp. England, orig. by colonists and later by their descendants.' (1808).

This term is Australian.

Hook, on his own: playing your own hand, working or fighting your own hand, for which hook is slang syn.

OED gives 'hook n.¹ 16. a. **on one's own hook**: in dependence on oneself or one's own efforts; on one's own account; at one's own risk. *colloq.*' (1812). The citations are from US, later British.

This phrase is not Australian.

Hook yer mutton: a low dance room phrase: syn for 'select your partners.' Women are commonly called mutton in Australia, connubial or sexual pleasures being called muttons.

Hook is thieves and pugilist for hand: to hook, to steal.
 A hook – a thief or pickpocket.
 A right hook: a fighting term, a hit, hooks, stabs, swings, jabs, etc.

1. OED gives **mutton** *n* 11. N.Z. colloq. **a. to hook one's mutton:** (a) to take one's partner in a dance (*rare*); (b) to depart, to clear out.

1929 'E. MILTON' *Love & Chiffon* 233 Look slippy, buddies. Hook your muttons for an extra. 1941 S.J. BAKER N.Z. *Slang* vi. 53 To *hook one's bait or mutton*, to depart (a variant of the English *sling one's hook*). 1966 G.W. TURNER *Eng. Lang. Austral. & N.Z.* 177 Some expressions that have been claimed for New Zealand are *at the rate of knots* 'very fast', *hook your mutton* 'clear out'. 1988 D. MCGILL *Dict. Kiwi Slang* 57 *Hook your mutton* clear out, similar to 'slinging your hook'; eg 'Let's hook our mutton, there's no welcome here, fellas'.

Only the first citation (1929) appears to be the sense given by S&O'B.

DNZE gives '**hook**, *v.* 4. to take one's partner for a dance (see quote 1929).'

There are two citations for this sense, 1929 and 1938. The 1929 citation is the Milton citation in OED.

This could be an incorrect spelling of **to hawk one's mutton**.

There is not enough evidence for this sense of the term.

2. OED gives '**hook** *v.* 7. **b. fig.** To catch, secure, e.g. as a husband, etc.' (a1800).

OED gives '**mutton** *n.* 3. *slang.* Woman's flesh sought for the satisfaction of male lust; loose women, prostitutes collectively. Hence also: a woman's genitals; copulation. Now chiefly in **to hawk one's mutton:** (of a woman) to flaunt her sexual attractiveness, to solicit for lovers.' (a1529).

This sense of the term **mutton** is standard.

3. OED gives '**hook** *v.* 6. *trans.* To snatch with a hook; to seize by stealth; to steal, pilfer.' (1615).

4. OED gives '**hook** *v.* d. *Boxing.* To strike (one's opponent) a swinging blow with the elbow bent.' (1898).

This term is not Australian in any sense.

Hook; with a hook: B&L give: Pay with a hook—to steal. 'With a hook' is a general contradiction. A Dutchman proposed marriage to a girl and said 'We will get some babies.' She remarked 'With a hook.' 'No, midt mein p---k.'
 Syn. with 'over the left' as used. Hooks, spurs.

OED gives '**hook** *v.* 6. *trans.* To snatch with a hook; to seize by stealth; to steal, pilfer.' (1615).

Both B&L and F&H assert **pay with a hook** is Australian, both using only one citation from J.B. Stephens *My Chineese Cook*.

B&L give '**pay with a hook** An expression probably imported into New South Wales in the old convict days.'

Both B&L and F&H rely on a literary invention. Baker 1945 (p. 300) gives **pay with a hook** as a literary invention of J.B. Stephens along with the word **bossaroo**.

This term is not Australian

(The phrase **pay with a hook** is in Baker 1941 and 1943.
It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Hoot: money. Morris gives a 'Truth' clipping tracing derivation to Maori 'utu'—money. I am more inclined to believe that it is a rhyming variant from loot.

OED gives '**hoot** *n.* 3. *NZ slang* Money paid as recompense; (as a generic term) money.' The earliest citation in *OED* for the term **hoot** in the 'generic' sense is:

1879 J. BARR *Old Identities* xxxvii. 333 The land that's waste they'll parcel oot. And sell't to all that's got the hoot.

AND gives **hoot** Money. (1864) – NZ Maori; *utu*. The first citation from Australia is 1881.

DNZE gives '**utu** II. 3. **hoot** as an English word in non-Maori contexts. [*AND* 1881-1977.] Money, cash.' (1864).

The term in non-Maori context was used in both Australia and New Zealand, but clearly originated in New Zealand.

Horse-bells: a bell hung around a horse's neck when turning him out in the open. Campers trust to the sound of the bell to find the horse. Bullock-bell, frog-bell.

OED gives '**horse** *n.* 27 **c. horse-bell.**' (1685).
This term is not Australian.

How not to do it: *journalese* applied to any half-hearted attempt or failure to accomplish anything. Generally associated with Governmental measures or regulations which fail to accomplish the matters they were framed to do.

The phrase may be a *Bulletinism*. There is no other evidence outside this material, but it seems to be a commonplace idiom.

Hump: to carry. Morris surrounds this, but 'Hump, got the hump' – dissatisfied, he misses. 'Got a hump on him like a camel,' 'It gives me the hump,' are common expressions: perhaps from a common mannerism of shrugging or humping the shoulders to express dissatisfaction.

OED gives '**hump** *n.* 3. **a.** A fit of ill humour or vexation; sulks. Esp. in phr. **to give** (a person) **the hump.** *slang.*' (1727).

AND gives '**hump** An arduous walk, carrying a load on one's back.' (1863).

Morris's meaning is correct – 'a long walk with a swag on one's back.'

This term is Australian.

Morris was correct to 'miss' the common sense.

Hump: *vulgar* to cohabit with a woman.

OED gives '**hump** v. 5. *trans.* and *intr.* To have sexual intercourse (with). *coarse slang.*' (1785).

This term is not Australian.

Humpy: Morris leaves nothing much to be said.

[**Morris: Humpy**, *n.* (1) a native hut. The aboriginal word is *Oompi*; the initial *h* is a Cockney addition, and the word has been given an English look, the appearance of the huts suggesting the English word *hump*. [The forms *himbing* and *yamba* occur along the East coast of Australia. Probably it is kindred with *koombar*, bark, in Kabi dialect, Mary River, Queensland.] The old convict settlement in Moreton Bay, now broken up, was called Humpy Bong (see *Bung*), *sc.* *Oompi Bong*, a dead or deserted settlement. The aboriginal names for *hut* may be thus tabulated:

Gunya	
Goondie	New South Wales
Humpy (Oompi)	Queensland
Mia-mia	Victoria and Western Australia
Wurley (Oorla)	South Australia
Wharë	New Zealand]

AND gives '**humpy** Formerly chiefly *Qld.* [*a. Jagara* (and neighbouring languages) *yumbi*] a temporary shelter of the Aborigines; *trans.*, any makeshift or temporary dwelling.' (1846).

This term is Australian.

Hurrah: *navvy* a boss or ganger always shouting at and rushing his men at work is said to work his men on the 'hurrah.'

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **on the hurrah** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1959.

EP1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

I

Identity, old: Morris has done well.

[**Morris: Identity, Old**, *n.* phrase denoting a person well known in a place. A term invented in Dunedin, New Zealand, in 1862, in a popular topical song, by Mr. R. Thatcher, an improvisator. In the song the "Old Identity," the former resident of Dunedin, was distinguished from the "New Iniquity," as the people were termed who came from Australia.]

AND gives **identity** 'One who is a well-known and long standing resident of a place; a local 'character'. Esp. in the collocation **old identity**.' (1862). This term is Australian.

The origin given by Morris is in part supported by the early AND citations:
1862 C THATCHER *Dunedin songster* No. 1 18 (title) *The old identity*.
1874 A BATHGATE *Colonial Experiences* 26 The term 'old identities' took its origin from an expression in a speech made by one of the members of the Provincial Council, Mr E.B. Cargill, who, in speaking of the new arrivals, said that the early settlers should endeavour to preserve their old identity ... [An Austral.] comic singer [C.R. Thatcher] helped to perpetuate the name by writing a song.

Ikey: Ikey Mo: a nickname applied to the bookmaking (betting) fraternity. In Australia the larger proportion of bookmakers is Jewish.

OED gives '**ikey**, *n.* and *a. slang and dial.* Familiar abbreviated form of the Jewish name *Isaac* (also **ikeymo**, *f.* *Isaac* and *Moses*), used typically for: a Jew or someone taken to be or resembling a Jew; also, a (Jewish) receiver, moneylender, etc.; *transf.*, a loafer; a tip, information; (*Austral.*) a bookmaker. As *adj.*, (a) artful, crafty, knowing, 'fly'; (b) having a good opinion of oneself, 'stuck-up'. Derogatory and offensive in all uses as applied to persons.' (1835). OED has one citation from Australia:

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 18 Apr. 11/1 She laid the odds, as smartly and acutely, I'll bet, as any trousered Ikey Mo.
(**Ikey Mo** is clearly a bookmaker.)

The reject files at ANDC also contain an 1894 citation:
The *Bulletin* 11 April 1894 p.17/3:

'As the combination books had Courallie and Wallace scribbled all over them, besides being heavily laid individually, Iky Mo's Easter harvest will be robbed of much of its richness.'

This suggests that **Ikey Mo**, in the specialised sense 'bookmaker', is Australian.

Indenturing: *West Australian* a system by which the aboriginals are bound to the service of particular masters: full of abuses amounting in many instances to practical slavery. For old convict meaning refer to Morris.

[**Morris: Indented Servants**, *n.* same as *Assigned* (q.v.) Servants.

Assigned, *Adj.* of a convict allotted to a settler as a servant. Colloquially often reduced to "signed."]

AND gives **indented** 'Of a convict: assigned into private service.' (1804). Only the convict sense given by Morris is Australian. There is no evidence for the use of the term **indenturing** applied to Aboriginal workers.

Inside, in the know: inside information in racing, mining and politics is correct information from principals.

In racing, inside is in the grandstand as opposed to the Leger or flat. 'Good betting inside to-day?' colloquial: 'Yes, how was it outside?'

OED gives '**inside** *n. a. adv. and prep. D. prep.* Inside of; on the inner side, or in the inner part, of; within. Now esp. in titles and headlines to indicate special or intimate knowledge.' (1791).

OED gives '**know** *n.*² The fact of knowing; knowledge. Now chiefly in colloq. phr. **in the know**, in possession of information which is not generally known.' (1592).

This term is not Australian.

In the soup: 'to fall in the soup' is equivalent to making a mistake or blunder: a sharp practitioner or over-reaching person failing in their aims 'falls in the soup.'

OED gives '**soup** *n.*² **b. in the soup**, in a difficulty. orig. U.S.' (1889). This term is not Australian.

Irish rise: a rise in wages in an inverse manner, i.e. a reduction. Many contradictory phrases are Irish: 'Irish apples' an instance, possibly from the Irish genius for making bulls.

OED gives '**Irishman** 3. **Irishman's promotion, rise**, reduced wages.' (quots. 1892 and 1903).

This term is not Australian.

The example given by S&O'B, **Irish apples** meaning potatoes, is an example of a contradictory phrase known as a **bull**.

OED gives '**bull** *n.*⁴ 2. A self-contradictory proposition; in mod. use, an expression containing a manifest contradiction in terms or involving a

ludicrous inconsistency unperceived by the speaker. Now often with epithet *Irish*; but the word had been long in use before it came to be associated with Irishmen.' (1640).

J

Jackeroo: Morris all good.

[**Morris: Jackaroo** *n.* a name for a *Colonial Experience* (q.v.), a young man fresh from England, learning squatting; called in New Zealand a *Cadet* (q.v.). Compare the American "tenderfoot." ... The word is generally supposed to be a corruption (in imitation of the word Kangaroo) of the words "Johnny Raw." Mr. Meston, in the 'Sydney Bulletin,' April 18, 1896, says it comes from the old Brisbane blacks, who called the pied crow shrike (*Strepera graculina*) "tchaceroo," a gabbling and garrulous bird. They called the German missionaries of 1838 "jackeroo," a gabbler, because they were always talking. Afterwards they applied it to all white men.]

AND gives '**jackeroo** *n.* Also **jackaroo**. [a. Jagara *dhūgai-iu* wandering white man.] 1. Orig. *Qld. Obs.* A white man living beyond the bounds of close settlement.' (1845). '2. A young man (usu. English and of Independent means) seeking to gain experience by working in a supernumerary capacity on a sheep or cattle station (see *COLONIAL EXPERIENCE n.* 1); a person working on a sheep or cattle station with a view to acquiring the practical experience and management skills desirable in a station owner or manager; *COLONIAL EXPERIENCE n.* 2.' (1870).

This term is Australian.

AWE explains that the origin given by Morris is 'without foundation. There is no confirmatory evidence of a bird name *tchaceroo* in the Brisbane language, or of anything like this being applied to missionaries.' The origin of the term is unknown.

Jackshay: a tin quart-pot carried by bushmen, used for making tea. It has a wire handle on the side, and tapers like a straight jug but without a lip. Sometimes it has a lid, but mostly a drinking cup fits into the top. Not in general use now, having been superseded by the billy.
See Morris's quotes and texts.

AND gives **Jack Shay** 'A tin vessel holding a quart (cf. Quart-pot 1) used for brewing tea and incorporating a smaller vessel for drinking.' (1879).
This term is Australian.

Jack-the painter: Morris.

[**Morris: Jack the Painter**, *n.* very strong bush-tea, so called from the mark it leaves round the drinker's mouth.]

AND gives '**Jack the painter** *Obs.* A coarse green tea, so named because of its staining properties.' (1852).

This term is Australian.

Jam: style, affectation, to put on jam, to put on side.

A particular aversion with Australian boarding houses is the boarder who first heavily butters his bread and then lays on jam—it is considered pretty strong to lay the jam on top of butter. A rather common practice with the genus hog, and a sarcastic remark from the head of the table 'You're fond of jam, Mr. ---' often falls flat.

AND gives '**jam**, *n.* ² Affectation; pretentious display; side'. Freq. in the phr. **to put on jam**.' (1882).

This term is Australian.

Jimmy or Jimmies: emigrants: a corruption to 'Jimmy Grant,' afterwards abbreviated to Jimmies. Applied to State-aided emigrants during the Seventies and Eighties. State-aided emigrants were recruited in the United Kingdom, and their fares to Australia were paid by the various Colonial Governments. The term as generally used had a meaning almost as insulting as 'paupers.'

AND gives '**Jimmy 1.** *Obs.* Abbrev. of JIMMYGRANT.' (1850 [NZ]).

AND gives '**jimmygrant**. Also **jimmigrant**, **Jimmy Grant**. Rhyming slang for IMMIGRANT 1.' (1845 [NZ]).

The terms **Jimmy** and **jimmygrant** were first recorded in New Zealand.

This term is Australian.

The origin given by *AND* is 'Rhyming slang for IMMIGRANT.'

Jinkers: Morris.

[**Morris: Jinkers**, *n.* a contrivance much used in the bush for moving heavy logs and trunks of trees. It consists of two pairs of wheels, with their axle-trees joined by a long beam, under which the trunks are suspended by chains. Its structure is varied in town for moving wooden houses. Called in England a "whim."]

AND gives '**jinker**, *n.* [Var. of Scot. dial. *janker* long pole on wheels used esp. for carrying logs.] **1.** A wheeled conveyance used for moving heavy logs, etc.: see quot. 1889. Also **timber jinker**, and *attrib.*' (1889).

This term is Australian.

Joey: *Aust. Vulgar* an hermaphrodite or sodomite: applied generally to any foppish or effeminate young man.

Morris for all other meanings.

[**Morris: Joey**, *n.* (1) A young kangaroo.

(2) Also slang used for a baby or little child, or even a young animal, such as a little guinea-pig. Compare "kid."

(3) A hewer of wood and drawer of water.]

There is no evidence for the 'vulgar' sense given by S&O'B.

Morris' senses:

1. *AND* gives '**joey** 2. A young kangaroo or wallaby.' (1839).

2. *AND* gives '**joey** 3.a. Any young creature.' (1874) 'b. A baby or young child.' (1887).

3. *AND* gives '**joey**, *n.* ³ Shortened form of WOOD-AND-WATER JOEY.' (1949).

AND gives '**wood-and-water joey** a. An unskilled labourer who performs the menial tasks of an establishment.' (1882).

This term is Australian in all three senses.

Joey, the shortened form of **wood-and-water joey**, antedates *AND*'s first entry by 39 years.

(The term **joey** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. Baker gives 'a sodomite', but the term is not used by Baker after 1943.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

Green gives 'joey' (Aus.) [20C] a sodomite, an active male homosexual.

It seems likely Baker took the term from S&O'B.)

John-Dunnes: *Aust* thieves policemen: obviously a corruption of French gens-d'arme.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Commonly abb. to 'Johns.']

AND gives '**John** 1. [Abbrev. Of *johndarm*, a. F. *gendarme*; used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.: see OED(S) *John* 1 c.] A police officer.' (1898).

AND gives '**John** 2. In Special Comb. with a second element forming a quasi-name: **Dunn** *obs.* (b.) a police officer.'

This is an Australian term, but appears to have become obsolete in the early 20th century. The last citation in *AND* is from Baker in 1941, but this is likely to have come from S&O'B.

Johnny Armstrong: a jockey who 'pulls' a horse.

B&L give: Captain Armstrong.

F&H gives '**Captain Armstrong** to 'pull' a horse and thus prevent him from winning.' (1864).

OED gives '**Johnny** 3. Johnny Armstrong *joc. slang* (see quot. 1962);'

1922 N. & Q. 9 Sept. 206/2 Johnny Armstrong, the action of 'pulling' or restraining a horse.

1962 GRANVILLE Dict. Sailors' Slang 66/2 Johnny Armstrong, any hard work involving pulling or hauling.

The *OED* entry implies that the variant **Johnny Armstrong** is Sailor's slang, however the S&O'B manuscript predates the *OED* citation.

Johnny cake: Morris.

[**Morris: Johnny-cake.** *n.* The name is of American origin, originally given by the negroes to a cake made of Indian corn (maize). In Australia it is a cake baked on the ashes or cooked in a frying pan. The name is used in the United States for a slightly different cake, viz. made with Indian meal and toasted before a fire.]

John Bartlett's *Dictionary of Americanisms* (1849) gives '**Johnny-cake.** A cake made of Indian meal mixed with milk or water. A New England *Johnny-cake* is invariably spread upon the stave of a barrel-top, and baked before the fire.'

AND gives '**Johnny-cake A.** *n.* A small, usu. thin, damper.' (1827). This sense of the term is Australian.

Johnny-gogglers: *bush slang* sovereigns: use limited.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Johnny Russell: *bush* a rhyming variant of 'bustle.' 'On the bustle' is thieves' and push slang for cadging or obtaining petty objects by cheek or cleverness.

AND gives '**Johnny 2.** In Comb. with a second element, freq. forming a quasi-name: **Russell** *obs.*, rhyming slang for 'bustle', esp. in the phrase **on the Johnny Russell.**' (1897).

There are only three citations in *AND*, Red Page 7 August 1897, S&O'B Material 1910 and Baker 1941.

The evidence for this term is thin. The 'Red Page' citation is the article on Australian Slang by the contributor '6x8', which was used extensively for the S&O'B material. Baker used S&O'B for his 1941 dictionary. Therefore this entry in *AND* depends on one source.

There is not enough evidence for this term.

Joint: in the rhyming slang, half a joint is half a pint: there is perhaps a connection between pint and point: working a point is a common phrase, so is 'working a joint.'

Any business or swindle among the criminal or larrikin fraternity is a joint.

A break-joint is a contrivance affixed to a racecourse roulette or other table by means of which the revolving table or needle can be stopped at the operator's pleasure.

'A gaffing joint' is a gambling house, and the principal use of the word is in gambling or betting circles. 'To work a joint' is to accomplish a racing or other swindle.

This entry is confused, and therefore difficult to comment upon.

There is no other evidence for the first sense, as rhyming slang for pint.

OED gives '**joint** *n.* 14. *slang or colloq.* (chiefly U.S.). A partnership or union, or a place of meeting or resort, esp. of persons engaged in some illicit occupation; *spec.* (in America) a place illegally kept (usually by Chinese) for opium-smoking, an opium-den; also applied to illicit drinking-saloons. More generally, a place; a house.' (1821).

The various associations of the term 'joint' are American.

There is no other Australian evidence of any terms mentioned in this entry.

Jonick: all right, good: indifferently used: have no idea of its origin: sounds Yiddish: not in B&L Dicty.

AND gives '**jonick** Also **jonic, jonnic, jonnik**. [Var. of Br. dial. *jannock* fair, straightforward: see *OED a.*] Fair; genuine; honest; true. Also as *adv.*' (1874). This term is Australian.

OED gives '**jannock** *a.(adv.) dial.* Fair, straightforward; genuine.'

The origin suggested by S&O'B is not supported by any evidence. There is no evidence for the term being 'Yiddish'. *OED* gives the etymology '[A modern dial. word: thought by some to be connected with *prec.*, but of much more recent history, wider diffusion (Northumberland to Hampshire, Norfolk to Cornwall), and greater phonetic diversity. (Not Sc.)]'

Jumbuck: Morris gives complete.

[**Morris: Jumbuck**, *n.* aboriginal pigeon-English for sheep. Often used in the bush. The origin of this word was long unknown. It is thus explained by Mr. Meston, in the 'Sydney Bulletin,' April 18, 1896: "The word 'jumbuck' for sheep appears originally as *jimba, jombock, dombock*, and *dumbog*. In each case it meant the white mist preceding a shower, to which a flock of sheep bore a strong resemblance. It seemed the only thing the aboriginal mind could compare it to."]

AND gives '**jumbuck** 1. A sheep.' (1824). *Austral. pidgin*.

This term is Australian.

Morris's is correct when claiming the origin is unknown. Meston is correct about some of the variants of jumbuck (*jimba* and *dombock*).

AWE gives 'Also *dombock, dumbug, jimba, jombok* and *jumbick*.'

AWE also suggests 'It may possibly be from an Australian language [*dhimba* in Kamilaroi has been suggested, but this cannot be confirmed] or else an alteration of an English phrase ('jump up' has been suggested).'

Jump, jumper, etc.: Morris.

[**Morris: Jump, to**, *v.* to take possession of a claim (mining) on land, on the ground that a former possessor has abandoned it, or has not fulfilled the conditions of the grant. The word is also used in the United States, but it is very common in Australia.

Instead of "you have taken my seat," you have *jumped* it. So even with a pew. A man in England, to whom was said, "you have jumped my pew," would look astonished, as did that other who was informed, "Excuse me, sir, but you are occupewing my py."

Jumper, *n.* one who *jumps* a claim. See *jump*.

Jumpable, *adj.* open to another to take. See *jump*.]

AND gives **jump** '1. *trans. Mining.* To occupy or take summary possession of (a claim), in the absence of the former occupant or by resort to legal technicalities.' (1852).

AND gives '**jumper**, *n.* ³ *Mining.* One who jumps another's claim.' (1854).

AND gives **jumpable** (1884).

These terms are Australian.

Jumping your horse over the bar: *bush* this is the last act in the knocking down of a cheque. If the party on the spree is the owner of a horse, to sell his horse or mortgage it to the publican so as to prolong his spree, he is said to have jumped his horse over the bar. Rather a serious matter in districts where the chances of work are far apart – a horse is almost a necessity to a man looking for work.

AND gives '**jump**, *v.* ² In the phr. **to jump** (a horse, etc.) **over the bar**, to trade one's horse for liquor.' (1895).

This term is Australian.

K

Kanaka: Morris.

[**Morris:** **Kanaka**, *n.* and *adj.* a labourer from the South Sea Islands, working in Queensland sugar-plantations. The word is Hawaiian (Sandwich Islands).]

AND gives '**kanaka** *n.* and *attrib.* *Hist.* [a. Hawaiian *kanaka* man.] **A.** *n.* A pacific islander, esp. one brought to Australia to work as an indentured labourer in the sugar and cotton industries of Queensland.' (1836).
This term is Australian.

Kangaroo: Morris.

[**Morris:** this entry takes seven pages, discussing the etymology of the term.]

AND gives **kangaroo** (1770).
This term is Australian.

Kauri: Morris.

[**Morris:** **Kauri**, or **Cowry**, or **Kauri-Pine**, *n.* Maori name for the tree *Agathis australia*.]

AND gives **kauri pine** (1861).
This is a New Zealand term.

Kerbstone artist or Gutter minstrel: a street musician or vocalist.

There is no other evidence for the term, but there are parallel compounds. *OED* gives '**kerb stone 2.** *attrib.*, as **kerb-stone broker** (*U.S.*), a broker, not a member of the stock exchange, who transacts business in the streets; **kerb-stone merchant**, a street dealer.' (1860)

F&H give: '**gutter-chaunter** (common)—a street singer.'

This term is not Australian.

Kibosh: *slang* to put the Kibosh on a person is equivalent to suppressing them: to beat a man as in argument or repartee: in business or law, to leave him without a chance is to put the Kibosh on him. Probably a corruption of 'calabash.'
B&L give: *calabooze*, corruption of *calabash*, variant from *jug*—a prison.

OED gives '**kibosh** 1. In phr. *to put the kibosh on*: to dispose of finally, finish off, do for.' (1836).

B&L give '**kibosh** (English and Yiddish), nonsense, rubbish, or humbug.'
This term is not Australian.

Kick the bucket: to die, probably from a person suiciding by hanging, after adjusting the rope having suspended himself by kicking away a bucket on which he stood.

OED gives '**bucket** *n.* 2. Hence (perhaps) *to kick the bucket*, (*slang*) to die.' (1785).

Lighter gives '[despite much speculation, the orig. remains uncert.]' (1785).

The first citation (1785) comes from Capt. Gross's *Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue*. There are many US citations in Lighter's dictionary beginning 1789.

This term is not Australian.

Kiley: Morris.

[**Morris**: **Kiley**, *n.* aboriginal word in Western Australia for a flat weapon, curved for throwing, made plane on one side and slightly convex on the other. A kind of boomerang.]

AND gives '**kylie** also **kiley** [a. Nyungar (and other Western Australian languages) *karli*.] 1. Chiefly W.A. BOOMERANG *n.* 1.' (1835).

This term is Australian.

Kill a snake: humorous, akin to the excuse of 'tween acts drinkers going out to see a man. Men with a private bottle at a picnic adjourning to have a drink, or lovers going off into the bush to spoon, are said to be going to kill a snake. Snakes are pretty numerous in some pic-nicing localities.

There is no evidence for this term being used in the senses, men having a private bottle, or lovers going to spoon. To see a man about a dog is a common phrase.

There is no other evidence for this phrase.

(The phrase **kill a snake** is in Baker who gives 'an equivalent of 'to see a man about a dog' 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959.

EP 1967S gives '**kill a snake**. To see a man about a dog': Australian: C. 20. B., 1942. With a pun on *penis erectus*.' He also gives '**see a man about a dog**.—2. Often, too, in answer to an inconvenient question about one's destination: C. 20, also = to go to the lavatory (to urinate only): mens: late C. 19-20.'

Green gives '**kill a snake/tree**, *to phr.* [19C] to urinate.' Although Green does not label the phrase Australian, there is no evidence of the phrase outside

EP, Baker and S&O'B. Partridge does not label the term Australian but he does cite Baker as his source.
It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Kinchela or Kinsella: also the name of a father and three sons well known as Sydney undertakers.

It is difficult to know the meaning of this entry. It appears that S&O'B may be referring to the commonly understood term defined below, and that the information given is additional. The only Australian evidence for this term is given in *AND*.

AND gives '**kinchela** *shearing obs.* Also **kinshela**. [Poss. f. the name of John Kinsella (d. 1902), labourer.] An adjustment made to shears to increase the width of the blow: see quotes. 1911 and 1937.' (1897).

1911 E.S. SORENSON *Life in Austral. Backblocks* The blades are pulled back and the knockers filed down, so the shears will take a bigger blow. This is called 'putting the Kinchler on them', from the fact that it was first adopted by John Kinsella.

It is not likely that the shearing term was connected to the well established firm of undertakers which operated in Oxford Street Sydney.

Kipny: a brothel or house of illfame.

2. Kip—the piece of wood used to balance the pennies on in pitch and toss.
3. Kip—a quality of leather.

[A gives the headword as: Kip or Kipny.
B gives the headword as Kip or Kipsy]

1. *AND* gives '**Kipsy** [Elaboration of kip lodging-house] house or shelter.' (1905).

Lighter gives '**kipsy** (common)—Brothel.'

The first sense is not Australian.

2. *AND* gives **kip** 'A small, flat piece of wood with which the coins are tossed.' (1887).

This sense is Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**kip**, *n.*¹ 1. The hide of a young or small beast (as a calf or lamb, or cattle of small breed), as used for leather.' (1530).

This sense is not Australian.

Knark or nark: *thieves* an informer or marplot: one who is changeable or unreliable.

2. *general* a cantankerous disagreeable or disputatious person. B&L give: *Knark old*, a savage person.

1. OED gives '**nark** *n.* 2. a. An informer; *spec.* (more fully **copper's nark**) a police informer.' (1859).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

2. OED gives '**knark** A hard-hearted, unfeeling person.' (1851).

AND gives **nark** only as a verb '*Obs.* [*spec. use of nark to exasperate.*] *trans.* To thwart (a scheme, etc.).' (1891).

The noun form of **nark** is not Australian.

Knock-about: 2. *Theatrical* a class of vaudeville artist whose performance is of the rough and tumble kind; a compound of dancing, singing, gagging, acrobatics, and absolute horseplay.

OED gives '**knockabout** *b.* *Theatr. slang.* Of noisy and violent character.' (1892).

This is not an Australian term.

Knockabout: Morris.

[**Morris: Knockabout**, *adj.* a species of labourer employed on a station; applied to a man of all work on a station. Like *Rouseabout* (q.v.).]

AND gives '**knockabout** 1. An unskilled labourer on a rural property; ROUSEABOUT *n.*' (1867).

This term is Australian.

Knockdown: Morris.

[**Morris: Knock-down**, *v.* generally of a cheque. To spend riotously, usually in drink.]

AND gives '**knock**, *v.* 1. a. *trans.* With **down**: to spend (one's available resources) in a spree or drinking bout; esp. in the phr. **to knock down a (one's, etc.) cheque.**' (1845).

This term is Australian.

Knock-out drops: *thieves* drugs used by thieves for purpose of making helpless a victim they wish to rob: of American origin. Also possibly allied to knock-out *pugilistic*, from their leaving a victim hors de combat.

OED gives '**knock-out** *d.* **knock-out drops** (also occas. *sing.*), a liquid drug of which drops are put into liquor to render a person unconscious or stupefied (e.g. in order to rob him). Also *fig. colloq.* (orig. U.S.).' (1895).

This term is not Australian.

Knock-out: *pugilistic* a hit which knocks an opponent senseless or powerless to resume fighting after a ten-seconds' interval.
2. Anything marvellous or astounding is alluded to as a 'regular knock-out.'

1. OED gives '**knock-out** 2. A knock-out blow:' (1887).

This term is not Australian.

2. OED gives '**knock-out** 4. *colloq.* A person or thing of overwhelming or surpassing quality.' (1892).

This term is not Australian.

Kokum – Kid – Taffy: leading or coaxing on, giving him kokum.
B&L give: *as Aust. Prison sham kindness.*

OED gives '**cocum** also **kokum** Used without precise grammatical reference for that which is (a) advantageous, lucky; (b) proper, correct.' (1839).

Matsell gives '**cocum** Sly; wary.'

The term **cocum** is given in both *The Sydney Slang Dictionary* and *The Australian Slang Dictionary*. The likely source for this term is Hotten's *Slang Dictionary* 1865.

F&H give '**cocum**, **kocum** *subs.* (common). —1. Shrewdness; ability; luck; cleverness. [From the hebrew *chochum*, *chochem*, or *cochem*, crafty; learned, wise, or a wise man.]'

B&L gives '**kokum** (Australian prison) – sham kindness.' It is likely B&L used the entry in SS to give the 'Australian prison' origin. There is no other evidence for Australian use.

OED gives '**kid** v 4 *trans.* To hoax, humbug, try to make (one) believe what is not true. Also, to joke with, tease.' 1811.

OED gives '**taffy** 1. 2. *U.S. slang.* Crude or vulgar compliment or flattery; 'soft soap'; blarney.' 1878.

These terms are not Australian.

Kookaburra: Morris.

[**Morris: Kookaburra**, *n.* (also **Gogobera** and **Goburra**), the aboriginal name for the bird called the *Laughing-Jackass* (q.v.). The first spelling is that under which the aboriginal name now survives in English, and is the name by which the bird is generally called in Sydney.]

AND gives **kookaburra** from '[a. Wiradhuri *gugubarra*.]' (1834).

This term is Australian.

L

Labour Member: *political* Members of Parliament who originated in a strike which extended throughout Australia. The Labour Unions considering themselves unjustly treated by the ruling powers, established a Political Labour League and elected Members to the several Parliaments pledged to their platform. These members encountered a good deal of prejudice and covert enmity from the old order of politicians, and the term 'a Labour Member' with many people was synonymous with 'Blatant Demagogue.'

It is interesting that the world's first Labor government was constituted in Queensland on 1 December 1899. Although labour member is now a common term, at this time the term would have been used in Australia only. In this sense the entry is correct.

There is no other evidence of the 'Blatant Demagogue' sense of the term. This type of political language is understandably short lived.

Lamb-down: *bush slang* quote from bush song 'The Broken-hearted Shearer,'

And he called for a nobbler at a well known house in town,
Where the Barmaids they were cautious for to lamb a fellow down.

To rob or cozen a man on the spree of his money. Sheep lambing down probable root: refer to Scotty.

There is no indication of the identity of 'Scotty'.

OED gives '**lamb** v. 4. **lamb down**. *Austral.* [? a transferred use of sense 3.] *trans.* a. To part with, pay down (money), esp. recklessly. Also *absol.*'

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 7 June 4/2 The paying off of drovers, the selling off of horses, the 'lambing down' of cheques.

Ibid. 9 Aug. 4/5 The old woman, of course, thought that we were on gold, and would lamb down at the finish in her shanty.

OED gives '**lamb** v. 3. Of a shepherd: To tend (ewes) at lambing-time. Also, **to lamb down**.' (1850).

OED confirms S&O'B's origin.

The S&O'B sense, to rob or cozen, is not in AND but the second sense in the following entry suggests this sense. See the entry for **lambing down** below. This term is Australian.

Lambing down: Morris.

[**Morris: Lamb down**, v. *tr.* (1) To knock down a cheque or a sum of money in a spree. There is an old English verb, of Scandinavian origin, and properly spelt *lamm*, which means to thrash, beat.

(2) To make a man get rid of his money to you; to clean him out.]

1. *AND* gives '**lamb down** v. 2. b. *trans.* To squander (one's accumulated earnings) on liquor.' (1899).
 2. *AND* gives '**lamb down** v. 2. a. *trans. Obs.* To inveigle (a client, esp. a shearer or shepherd) into spending accumulated earnings on liquor.' (1850).
AND gives '**lambing down** vbl. n. 2. a. The process of spending one's earnings on liquor.' (1850).
- This term in all senses is Australian.

Lamm: Aust. *slang*, lambaste—to beat. From B&L: to beat, strike: from the Icelandic hlenma, to beat, bruise: Anglo-Saxon lama: Irish lamh: old Norse lamr.

Hotten derives it from old Norse, lam, hand. Lam is originally to strike with the hand: compare smack to slap and Irish smac, the palm of the hand. The word is old English, and it is now used only by slang-talking people.

(Rather a pure conclusion after all the authorities they quote. S. O'B.)

(No use all this for Aust. dictionary. S. O'B.)

OED gives '**lam** v. 1. *trans.* To beat soundly; to thrash; to 'whack'. Now *colloq.* or *vulgar.*' (1595).

This term is not Australian.

The second bracketed note by Steve O'Brien is correct.

Larkin: *tinkers a girl*, vide B. & L. All that stuff you showed me by Jago on the Cornish larrikin simply brings the derivation on all fours with the Sergeant Dalton theory: Cornishmen roll their r's just like certain Irish. 'We minerrrs requirre fowerrr meals a day. I have heard a Cousin Jack remark, and the r's sounded like those in larrikin.

Most of this entry reads as a note from O'Brien to Stephens.
There is no other evidence for this term in this sense.

Larks: *American thieves boys who steal newspapers from door-steps*, vide B&L. Leary bloke, leary kinchin, larkin, etc, etc, and larrikin.

Cornish or Irish, the matter is well obscured.

Here is a quotation from 'The Dialect of Leeds', a book which was published in 1862, eight years before the word appeared in print in Melbourne:-

Larack: to frolic. 'Yoas larracking abart ower mich fur my fancy,' said of a giddy person—one always at a frolic. 'Shoo larrack'd abart an' did nowt else wal shoo wur fair grown up' – romped about, &c. Dial. Of Leeds, 1862 p. 339

A few years after the word appeared in print in Melbourne, we find the word 'larrikin' given in a book called 'The Ancient Language and Dialect of Cornwall' by Dr. F.W.P. Jago published in 1882. The work was written about 1880, so that if the word were of Australian origin it would have had to have travelled to Cornwall in ten years and become so common there that Dr. Jago (a man who in the preface of this book describes himself as 'long descended from Cornishmen and with a clannish fondness for Cornish words and phrases') and other writers, mistook it for a Cornish word. Here is a quotation taken from his dictionary:-

'Larrikins. Mischievous young fellows, larkers.

'Mischievous larrikins who pull the young trees down.'

The Cornishman F.W.P. Jago, *The Anc. Lang. & the Dial. Of Cornwall*, Truro, 1882, p. 205.

With a view to getting further light on the subject Dr. Jago was written to, and replied as follows:-

57 Ebrington Street, Plymouth, England, March 9, 1899.

I do not think the word larrikin can have been first used in your part of the world. From all I can find it has been long in use in Cornwall. A Cornish lady friend of mine, nearly eighty years of age, tells me she has known the name 'ever since she was a girl,' and another friend aged seventy years says that he has heard the word used so far north as Berwick, so the use of the word is very far spread.

In Cornwall we distinguish between a 'rough' and a 'larrikin'. The latter is considered to be one 'up to mischief but this must have fun in it. Thus it would really seem, and it is my opinion, that larrikin is synonymous with, or another form of the word larker, i.e. one who larks, or plays practical jokes.

We Cornish consider larrikins as being young fellows ready to play all sorts of tricks. Larrikins used (not so much now) to exercise their talents in a variety of ways in Cornwall, I will mention a few of them, thus—

1. Going into a field or garden and planting cabbages, turnips, and small shrubs upside down.

2. At my school in Truro, Cornwall, it was larrikin law that every cup must have its handle broken off when new cups were had to replace the broken ones.

3. At Bodmin the larrikins would send the rib of a horse, well cleaned and daintily wrapped in silver paper, to any crusty or selfish old bachelor to remind him of his duty.

[B reads: 'Shoo larrack'd abart an' did nowt·else till shoo wur fair grown up'—romped about, &c. *Dial. Of Leeds*, 1862 p. 330']

OED gives '**lark**, *v.*² *colloq.* (orig. *slang*). [Belongs to LARK *n.*²; the *n.* and *vb.* appear first in 1811-3. The origin is somewhat uncertain. Possibly it may represent the northern LAKE *v.*, as heard by sporting men from Yorkshire jockeys or grooms; the sound (l k, læ k), which is written *lairk* in Robinson's *Whitby Glossary* and in dialect books, would to a southern hearer more naturally suggest 'lark' than 'lake' as its equivalent in educated pronunciation. On the other hand, it is quite as likely that the word may have originated in some allusion to LARK *n.*¹; cf. the similar use of *skylark* *vb.*, which is found a few years earlier (1809).]

1. *intr.* To play tricks, frolic; to ride in a frolicsome manner; to ride across country. Also with *about*. (1813).

2. *trans.* To make fun of, tease sportively (a person); to ride (a horse) across country.' (1848).

This term is not Australian.

This entry appears to explain the term **larrikin** given below.

OED gives '**larrikin** Chiefly *Austral.* [Of uncertain origin; possibly f. *Larry* (a nickname for Lawrence, common in Ireland) + *KIN*. The word seems to have originated in Melbourne not long before 1870; but the story that it was evolved by a reporter from an Irish policeman's pronunciation of *larking*, heard in a Melbourne police-court in 1869, appears to be a figment, no trace of the incident being found in the local papers of the time. (See Morris, *Austral Eng.*, s.v.) A guess that has been proposed is that it is short for Eng. slang *leary*

kinchen. Wright, Suppl. to *E.D.D.*, cites *larrikin* 'a mischievous or frolicsome youth' from informants in Warwickshire and Worcestershire; see also quot. 1882. Cf. *E.D.D.*, *Larack* (*larack about*, to 'lark' about), cited from C. C. Robinson's *Dial. of Leeds* (1861).]

A (usually juvenile) street rowdy; the Australian equivalent of the 'hoodlum' or 'hooligan'. Also *transf.* and *attrib.*' (1868).

OED does not mention Cornwall as a possible source for this term. The term *larrikin* appears to have first been used in Victoria.

The Cornish Association of Bendigo and District (Victoria) gives:

'The ability of the Cornish in Bendigo and Victoria to mine in quartz became legendary to the extent that even Cornishmen who had never been down a mine were considered to have great powers. As a result Bendigo, the Quartzapolis of the state, became a Mecca for unemployed miners leaving Cornwall in their hundreds.

It has been estimated that in 1880, 48 % of the male adult population were miners and 80% were Cornish. They came with their families bringing their hopes and dreams of getting a job and starting a new life. Areas such as Long Gully were soon known as little Cornwall.'

The Cornish miners also moved into the goldfields around Ballarat in the mid 1850s.

Given the high proportion of Cornish people in Victoria from the 1850s onward, it seems probable that the evidence given by S&O'B is correct.

The term *larrikin* may have originated in Cornwall.

Larrikin: example of added 'kin' in *B&L*: *sillikin*, a silly person.

B&L also gives '**Larrikin** (common), a rough, a wild fellow. ... Imported from Australia, where it is sometimes abbreviated to *lary*.'

Larrikin: Morris.

[**Morris: Larrikin**, *n*. The word has various shades of meaning between a playful youngster and a blackguardly rough. Little street-boys are often in a kindly way called little *larrikins*. ... Archibald Forbes described the *larrikin* as "a cross between the Street Arab and the Hoodlum, with a dash of the Rough thrown in to improve the mixture."]

1. *AND* gives '**larrikin** 2. **a**. One who acts with apparently careless disregard for social or political conventions.' (1891).

This term is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**larrikin** 1. *Hist.* **a**. A young, urban rough, esp. a member of a street gang; a hooligan.' (1868).

This term is Australian.

3. This sense is from *EDD* cited in the above entry.

This sense is not Australian.

Lead: *mining* Morris.

[**Morris: Lead**, *n.* (pronounced *leed*), a mining term. In the Western United States and elsewhere, the term *lead* in mining is used as equivalent for lode. In Australia, the word *lead* is only used in reference to alluvial mining, and signifies the old river-bed in which gold is found.]

AND gives **lead** 'Used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.' (1852).
This was originally an Australian term.

Leather-necks: vide B.&L: a term for soldiers from their leather stocks. *Bush* applied to the rouseabouts or general labourers in shearing sheds, perhaps a meaning of rank and file adapted from the military use.

AND gives '**leatherneck**. *Obs.* A rouseabout.' (1897).
This term is Australian.

Leg-pulling: chaffing or drawing out: seems to have a connection with 'wing-pulling,': to pull a person's wing is to pluck their sleeve or to give them a nudge, which is a general sign to a company from a leg-puller when he is operating on a victim.

OED gives '**leg** *n.* 17. **a. leg-pull** [f. the phr. *to pull one's leg*: see LEG *n.* 2a], the act of deceiving a person in a playful way, a humorous deception (so **leg-puller, -pulling** *ns.*);' (1915).

OED gives '**pull** *v.* II 7. **d. to pull** (also **draw**) **one's leg**: see LEG 2. In imp. phr. **pull the other one, (it's got bells on it)** and *varr.*, a statement of disbelief implying suspicion that 'one's leg is being pulled'.' (1849).

This term is not Australian.

Leprosy: Cabbage.

[There is no entry in the base text, A & B give the definition: Cabbage.]

There is no other independent evidence for this term.

(The term **leprosy** is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959 giving the definition 'cabbage' there is no explanation or citations given.

EP 1967S gives: 'cabbage', cites Baker 1942.

Green gives: 'leprosy' – [1930s-40s] (Aust.) Cabbage.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Levy: i.e. levy and distress: a form of legal recovery of fines or penalties by levying on a person's goods and selling them under a distress warrant.

Thieves out on a levy, i.e.
given time to pay a fine, if not a warrant will issue to levy on their goods.

1. OED gives '**levy**, v. 2. a. Law. *to levy a fine*.' (1483).

OED gives '**distress** v. 6. To levy a distress upon, subject to a distress warrant;' (c1440).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

2. There is no other evidence of **out on a levy**.

Lightning jerker or squirter: nickname for telegraph operators.

[Newspaper clipping 20.2.1897 attached to A:-

Under the caption, 'Another Silken Bond,' a lightning-jerker addresses THE BULLETIN on a subject presumably of interest to telegraphists, and, it would also appear, of importance to the general public:-]

The newspaper article used by S&O'B gives only the term **lightning jerker**.

Lighter gives '**lightning jerker** n. a telegrapher.' 1891 to 1945, the last citation being Baker 1945. The citation from Baker is the only one that gives the alternate term **lightning squirter**.

The term **lightning jerker** is not Australian.

There is no independent evidence for the term **lightning squirter**.

(The term **lightning jerker (squirter)** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but it is not in later publications.

EP 1967S gives '**lightning jerker** (or **squirter**). A telegraph operator: Australian: since ca. 1910. B., 1942.'

Green gives **lightning jerker** US, **lightning jerker**' & **lightning squirter** (Aust.) 1910s – 1940s.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B)

Lizard:

There is no definition for lizard in any of the three drafts.

The only Australian definition for this term apart from the reptile is below.

AND gives '**lizard** one employed: (a) to muster sheep.' (1897). '(b) to maintain boundary fences.' (1905).

Log-rolling: *political* a process of mutual assistance by which politicians of the Roads and Bridges kind squeeze the Treasury for their own or their electorate's benefit. 'You vote for my motion and I will vote for yours,' i.e. give me a hand to roll my log and I will give you a hand with yours.

B&L give American. '**Log-rolling** is a somewhat rare term in England but well understood in Washington. Political favours to promote a scheme of their own.'

OED gives '**log-rolling** 2. *colloq.* (orig. *U.S.*) a. Combination for mutual assistance in political or other action. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* Suggested by the proverbial phrase 'You roll my log and I'll roll yours'.' (1823).

Lighter gives **logroll** (1812).

This term is not Australian but was commonly used in Australia from 1885.

Logs: Morris.

[**Morris: logs**, *n. pl.* the Lock-up. Originally, in the early days, a log-hut, and often keeping the name when it was made a more secure place. Sometimes, when there was no lock-up, the prisoners were chained to heavy logs of trees.]

AND gives '**log** *n.*¹ 2. In *pl.* with **the**. A goal, orig. (see quotes. 1796 and 1873) one constructed of logs.' (1796).

There is no evidence for prisoners being chained to logs being the origin of the term. The 1873 citation in *AND* which describes the lock up being built with log floor, walls and ceiling, points to the likely origin of the term.

This term is Australian.

Loll and lollies: *Aust* sweets, confectionery etc. B&L give: Loll American a favorite child or mother's darling: and loblolly, spoon-feed or water-gruel.

Lolly-pop: syn. 'with lolly. 'Lolly-pop shops' has a twang as if it were related to the rhyming slang.

[A & B give: **lollie and lollies** as the headword, and add to the end of the entry: i.e. shop.]

AND gives '**lolly** 1. A sweet of any kind, esp. boiled.' (1854).

This is an Australian term.

Long-haired mate: *old Aust. diggers* wife, mistress etc, women generally. B&L give: Long-haired chum tailors a young lady friend.

OED gives '**long haired** a. Having long hair; *spec.* applied, at various times, (a) to Merovingians; (b) (freq. derog.) to aesthetes and intellectuals; (c) to cats with long fur; (d) to classical (as opposed to popular) music and musicians; (e) to beatniks and hippies. Sometimes without reference to the actual length of the hair; with or of intellectual or aesthetic pretensions. *Spec. long-haired chum* (see quot. 1890).' (1552).

The 1890 citation in *OED* is from B&L as in the entry above. This is the only evidence given by *OED* for this sense.

Lighter gives '**long-haired** *adj.* 2. (of a person normally assumed to be male) female. *Joc.* (1889 [B&L]).'

There is one citation for this term:

Human Toll by B. Baynton (1907) p. 113:

They say a certain buxom widow will not be so much longer." ' Without pause or comment, Andrew united it to its suggestive follower: ' "They say a certain lean shepherd is about to take unto himself a long-haired mate." '

There is no other evidence for the term in Australia. It appears likely this phrase was used in Australia to denote a wife, but citations have not been collected.

Long sleeve: Morris.

[**Morris: Long-sleeve**, *n.* name for a big drink and also for the glass in which it is contained. Perhaps in allusion to its tall, tapering, long shape.]

AND gives **long**, *a.* '**-sleeve**, a tall glass: the drink so contained.' (1879). This term is Australian.

Lose your block: *gambling* applied to 'solo whist' or 'hearts' player who loses the run of the play and spoils his hand. Anyone going wrong either in sport, business; or gambling is said to have lost his block. To blunder or make a mistake for want of skill or caution.

AND gives '**to do** (or **lose**) **one's block** (a). to lose one's temper. (b). to lose one's heart (to someone).' (1907).

OED gives '**block** *n* 4 *d.* Also **to lose** or **do (in) one's block** (chiefly Austral. and N.Z.), to become angry, excited, or anxious. (*slang.*).' (1913).

This term is Australian, but the sense given by S&O'B is inaccurate.

Loud: *push* showily dressed, striking or gaudy. 'Gorblomme, he's as loud as a brass band.' 'Yes, his father and mother must be deaf.' *Push converse.* I have heard a girl tell a would-be lady-killer with a gaudy hatband 'to go away and listen to the band of his hat play,' equivalent to telling him to go and try it on somebody else.

OED gives '**loud** *a.* 4. Of colours, patterns, dress, manners, etc.: Vulgarly obtrusive, flashy. Opposed to *quiet*.' (1849).

This term is not Australian.

Lubra: Morris.

[Morris: **Lubra**, *n.* aboriginal name for a black woman.]

AND **lubra** '1. An Aboriginal woman.' (1829).
This term is Australian.

Lumber: timber in large pieces.

To arrest: a pushite who had been arrested would say he'd been lumbered.

1. OED gives '**lumber** *n.* 1. 3. . *N. Amer.* Timber sawn into rough planks or otherwise roughly prepared for the market.' (1662).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

2. AND gives **lumber** 'To arrest; to imprison; to punish judicially.' (1827).

This sense of the term is Australian.

Lumberer: a brothel tout; a man who decoys drunken men down lanes or alleys or into bilking houses for the purposes of robbery. The sense of lumberer in B.&L: a racing tipster on the take-down is known in Australia as a whisperer.

1. There is no evidence for the sense of a brothel tout.

2. B&L gives '**Lumberer** (turf), a swindling tipster, who works his business *vivâ voce* instead of by advertisement.'

OED gives '**lumberer** *n.* 3. 2. *slang.* a. ? A tramp, vagrant (*obs.*). b. 'A swindling tipster' (Barrère & Leland).' (1897).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

The term **whisperer** is the Australian form of **lumberer**. SEE also **whisperer**.

Lumbering: to lumber, to arrest. 'While the Sydney Inspectors of Nuisances are lumbering the city Chow for dirty premises etc.' Bully, 22.10.97.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: To arrest. A pushite who had been arrested would say he'd been lumbered.]

AND gives **lumber** 1812. (Vaux)

AND does not have the term **lumbering**. The definition S&O'B give suggests the headword for this entry should be **lumber**.

The term **lumber** is Australian.

Lumper: B&L give: to lump the lighter, thieves to be transported: in this case, to lump signifies load.

Wharf (dock) labourers, i.e. stevedores' labourers, are known in the Australian ports as lumpers: more especially applied to coaling stevedores, 'The Coal Lumpers Union.'

1. It seem likely this use is provided to give an origin for the 'wharf' sense.
2. *OED* gives '**lumper** *n.* **1. a.** A labourer employed in loading and unloading cargoes, esp. timber.' (1785).
This term is not Australian.

Lush, Lushington: *slang* B&L give: Alderman Lushington: speaking of a person who is drunk, the flash fraternity say he has been voting for Alderman Lushington: from Vaux's Memoirs.

Lush: beer, spirits etc.

Lushington: an habitual drunkard.

S&O'B have used both B&L and Vaux.

OED gives '**lush** 1790. **lushington** **1.** In various jocular phrases referring to drink. (See quotes.) *Obs.*' (1823).

This term is not Australian.

M

Mackay, the real: pronounced Muckeye: slang term to denote absolute genuineness or purity. A dram of really good spirits would be spoken of as 'a drop of the real Mackay.' The real thing itself, unadulterated and unsophisticated.

OED gives '**McCoy** *n.* and *a. colloq.* **A. n. the real McCoy**, the genuine article, the real thing.' (1856).

OED gives '**McCoy** In the colloq. phr. **the real McCoy** (or **Mackay, McKie**): the 'genuine article', the real thing. Its origin remains uncertain.' (1883).

The real Mackay is a standard variant of the phrase **the real McCoy**. This phrase is not Australian.

Madame: used in a derogatory sense: most of the women who keep fashionable brothels use the prefix madame. A regular old madam—a fast or dissolute elderly woman. One house in Melbourne is well known as 'Madame's.'

OED gives '**madam** *n.* **5.** A female brothel-keeper.' (1879). This term is not Australian.

Mad dog: *Aust.* An account which the debtor will not pay, mostly used in reference to public houses. 'I don't want to pass that house, there is a mad dog in there that might rush out and bite me'—meaning that the creditor might ask for payment.

In the original manuscript this entry follows 'chaining up a pup'.

Mad dog: *slang* an unpaid score at a public house. A man avoids an hotel where he owes money for fear of the mad dog rushing out and biting him: see 'chaining up a pup.'

The manuscript contains two entries for the term **Mad dog**.

OED gives: '**Mad dog** **1.** Strong ale; *HUFF CAP n.* **1.** Now *hist* 1577 obs.'

There is a citation for this term in the *Supplement to Weekend News*, Perth 20 May 1966. As referred to in the introduction this appears to be taken from Baker's work.

There is no independent evidence for this term.

(The term **mad dog** is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959 but not after 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Maiden's or barmaid's blush: *slang* a soft drink composed of gingerbeer and raspberry syrup: probably from the pink colour of the beverage.

OED gives: **maiden's blush** as 'delicate pink colour' (1648).

AND gives '**maiden's blush** 2. See quotes.' The only quotes are from Baker (1941), Turner (1966) and Aust. Folklore (1970).

1941 S.J. BAKER *Pop. Dict. Austral. Slang* 45 *Maiden's blush*, ginger beer and raspberry.

1966 G.W. TURNER *Eng. Lang. in Aust. & N.Z.* 116 *maiden's blush*, a drink, either of port and lemonade or rum and raspberry.

1970 W. FEARN-WANNAN *Austral. Folklore* 32 Usually in old-time bushmen's meaning, a drink of rum and raspberry is a Barmaid's Blush. This drink is also known as a 'Maiden's Blush'.

Turner says he took the term from Baker. This must have been taken from Baker 1945.

AND gives '**barmaid's blush**. See quote. 1970.'

1912 *Huon Times* (Franklin) 3 Apr. 6/2 The plaintiff urged that he could not have been drunk because he had swallowed nothing beyond 'barmaid's blush'.

1943 *Bulletin* Sydney 5 Jan. 12/1 Whatever you think of a Lady's Waist or a Barmaid's Blush or a Horse's Neck, A Bull-whale's Crush or a Slippery Deck, there's nothing solid in what ghosts drink.

1970 W. FEARN-WANNAN *Austral. Folklore* 32 Usually in old-time bushmen's meaning, a drink of rum and raspberry is a Barmaid's Blush.

There is little evidence for the alcoholic sense of either terms. The citations from the *Huon Times* and the *Bulletin* supports the non-alcoholic sense given by S&O'B. All other citations derive from Baker 1945. There is no other evidence for either term.

(Baker took **maiden's blush** from S&O'B.

Baker 1941 and 1943 gives '**BARMAID'S BLUSH**: A drink of port and lemonade, or rum and raspberry.' '**MAIDEN'S BLUSH**: Ginger-beer and raspberry.'

Baker 1945 gives 'a *barmaid's blush* or *maiden's blush* is described as either a drink of port and lemonade or a drink of rum and raspberry.')

Mana: *journalese* prestige: Maori origin and quotes of Maori usage complete in Morris.

OED gives '**mana**, *n.* 1. Simple uses. 1. Power, authority, or prestige; *spec.* (in Polynesian and Melanesian religions) an impersonal supernatural power which can be associated with people or with objects and which can be transmitted or inherited.' (1843).

DNZE gives 1843.

The only evidence of the term being used outside New Zealand are two occurrences in Joseph Furphy's *Such is Life* (1903).

This is a New Zealand term.

Maoriland: Morris

[**Morris: Maoriland**, *n.* a modern name for New Zealand. It is hardly earlier than 1884. If the word, or anything like it, such as *Maoria*, was used earlier, it meant "the Maori parts of New Zealand." It is now used for the whole.]

AND gives '**Maoriland** [Used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.: see OEDS.] A name for New Zealand.' (1859).

The sense given by Morris is Australian.

Mark, good or bad: clip—from Morris

R Howitt's quote of 1845

Neither Howitt nor Morris make any hazard as to derivation. Possible old tramp or gypsy *English* origin from practice of beggars putting secret marks on houses to let others of their fraternity know whether the house was a good or bad one for beggars.

[**Morris: Mark, a good**, Australian slang.

1845 R. Howitt, 'Australia,' p. 233:

"I wondered often what was the meaning of this, amongst many other peculiar colonial phrases, 'Is the man a good mark?' I heard it casually from the lips of apparently respectable settlers, as they rode on the highway, 'Such and such is one good mark,'—simply a person who pays his men their wages, without delays or drawbacks; a man to whom you may sell anything safely; for there are in the colony people who are regularly summoned before the magistrates by every servant they employ for wages. They seem to like to do everything publicly, legally, and so become notoriously not 'good marks.'"]

AND gives '**mark**, *n.* 1. A person who is an object of attention: freq. with qualifying *adj.* as **good** (**bad**, etc.) **mark**, having preference esp. to the person's financial probity.' (1835). There is a gap in citations between 1867 and 1941 (Baker). The Baker citation obviously comes from the S&O'B material.

The only other citation is from S HICKEY *Travelled Roads* (1951). This book has many terms which appear in Baker 1941 and 1943, with little or no other evidence.

The life of this term appears to have been extended by Baker and subsequently by Hickey.

This term is Australian but it appears to have been obsolete before this dictionary was compiled.

Mary: blackfellow's name for wife or woman. Morris.

AND gives '**Mary**. *Austral. Pidgin*. [Also in other Pacific pidgins.] **a**. An Aboriginal woman.' (1830).
This term is Australian.

McGinnis - putting the, on: to put any opponent or combatant hors-de-combat. A grip or hold that cannot be unlocked or resisted.

AND gives '**maginnis** [Of unknown origin.]. *Obs*. Also **McGinness**, **McGinnis**, **McGuinness**. A (wrestling) hold from which escape is difficult. *Freq. fig.* and esp. in the phr. **to put (or clap) (the) maginnis on**. Also **crooked maginnis**.' (1901).

This term has citations from 1901, 1904, 1905, 1912 and 1941 (Baker). It seems likely Baker took the term from S&O'B therefore the 1941 citation should not be used. This term appears to have had limited use.
This term is Australian.

Men on horseback: *bush slang* sovereigns sterling, the sovereigns coined at the Melbourne Mint have on the reverse a figure of St George and the Dragon. *Not in general use*.

There is no other evidence for the term.

Merinoes, pure: applied to the leading families *aristocracy*. As old as 1827, vide Morris's quote, from P. Cunningham's *Two Years in Australia*. Never hear it now. S. O'B.

AND gives '**merino**. *Hist*. [Fig. use of *merino* a breed of fine-woolled sheep introduced early in small numbers and valued more highly than coarse-woolled sheep.] One who has chosen to settle in Australia (as opposed to a convict or ex-convict); one who finds in this a basis for social pretension. Esp. as **pure merino**.' (1826). The last citation is 1976.

All citations after 1907 are only in historical context, which supports Steve O'Brien's claim that the term **pure merinoes** had ceased to be used.
This term is Australian.

Micky: a wild young bull. Morris.

[**Morris: Micky**, *n.* young wild bull. "Said to have originated in Gippsland, Victoria. Probably from the association of bulls with Mickeys, or Irishmen." (Barrère and Leland.)]

AND gives '**mickey**. Also **micky**. [Spec. use of *Mick(e)y* familiar form of *Michael*, prob. infl. by (orig. U.S.) *Mick* an Irishman.] 1. A bull calf, usu. unbranded and freq. wild.' (1876).

This term is Australian.

Miller, floury: a name for a small brown cicada *locust*: from the fact of the body of the insect looking as if flour had been sprinkled over it. In general use among schoolboys. Also called 'floury baker.'

AND gives **floury baker**. 'The cicada *Abricta curvica* of s.e. Qld. and coastal N.S.W., having a covering of easily detachable hair-like scales resembling flour in appearance; Baker. Also **floury miller**.' (1895).

This term is Australian.

Miner's right: *mining* a legal warrant issued by Colonial Governments authorising the holder to mine for gold on any public lands, and, subject to laws and regulations, on private lands also. *Morris* gives quote of Boldrewood's 1890 Date of origin would be of more import and perhaps reproduction of a miner's right.

AND gives '**miner**, *n.*² In special collocations': '**right**, a document entitling the holder to search for and remove a mineral (orig. gold); land occupied under such an entitlement.' (1862).

This term is Australian.

Missed the bus: sporting slang: Some of the racecourses about Sydney are reached by omnibuses, consequently people who 'come the aftergame' are wont to say 'I'd have gone out and backed so-and-so' naming a winner, 'only for missing the bus.' Missing the bus is applied to failing in any object or speculation.

OED gives '**bus** *n.*² 1. *b.* Phr. **to miss the bus** (fig.): to lose an opportunity; to fail in an undertaking. *slang*.' (1886).

This term is not Australian.

Mob and its variants: *Morris*.

[**Morris: Mob**, *n.* a large number, the Australian noun of multitude, and not implying anything low or noisy. It was *not* used very early, as the first few of the following quotations show. [first quotation for kangaroos 1836, people 1874]]

There are no variants in Morris.

AND gives '**mob** *n.* 3. A number, or class, of people sharing a distinctive characteristic, identity, etc.' (1848).

This term is Australian.

Mocker: *slang* face powder, paint, rouge, pearl cream, etc. A woman with her face artistically decorated is said to be mocked up. B & L give: mockered—dirtied, defiled. It is (they say) the gypsy mukado, often pronounced mockerdo or mocked, meaning smeared, defiled, dirtied, spotted, and sometimes painted. Morris gives: moko, the system of tattooing practiced by the Maoris.

[A adds to the end of the entry: But not mocked (slang.)]

AND gives '**mock** Also **mokker**. [Of unknown origin.] Attire; dress.' (1947).

OED gives '**mock**, *n.*³ *slang* (Austral. and N.Z.). Clothing; dress, attire.' (1939-45).

Neither of the definitions encompass face decoration.

There is no evidence for this sense.

OED gives '**moko** *n.*² A traditional Maori form of tattooing, esp. of the face; any particular pattern used in such tattooing. In extended use: such a pattern used as a signature. Freq. *attrib.*' (1838).

In this sense the term is from New Zealand.

Mong: *slang* 'to do a mong' is to beg, borrow, or cadge anything. A push idiom is 'a regular monger,' i.e. any person always borrowing or cadging. Probably a corruption of monger as in costermonger etc. Old English of monger might stand looking up.

AND has **mong** '2. *transf.* Applied to a person: see MONGREL. Also *attrib.*'

OED gives '**mong** *n.* (Austral slang) 1. A mongrel; (*depreciatively*) any dog.' (1903).

2. In extended use: a despicable person. Cf. MONGREL *n.* 5a.' (1926).

DVT gives '**Mongrel** A hanger on among cheats, a spunger.'

This is the likely derivation of **mong** in the sense which S&O'B give.

There is no other Australian evidence for the term.

Moniker: name or signature. B&L give: popular thieves and tinkers a man's signature or name, a corruption of monarch, which see.

OED gives '**moniker** *n.* *slang.* 1. A name (esp. an assumed one); a nickname, epithet.' (1851).

OED gives '**moniker** *n.* 2. In extended use: a signature, a signed name.' (1851).

This term is not Australian.

Monte: *sporting* a take-down game of cards, commonly known as the three-card trick. The spieler or swindler shuffles three cards and bets that a certain card cannot be picked. By sleight of hand he deceives his victim, or else relies on the presence of confederates to bilk the victim of his money.

2. Monte-men: applied to professional card or gambling swindlers as a class. Synonyms: spieler, blackleg, takedown, magsmen.

3. Monte: a sure thing, a dead bird, a thing very sure to happen or win. Nothing has a chance as in the monte game.

1. & 2. *AND* gives '**monte**. Also **monty**. [Transf. use of U.S. *monte* a game of chance played with cards.] 1. *Obs.* A racecourse tipster. Also **monte man**.' (1887).

Senses 1 and 2 are not Australian.

3. *AND* gives '**monte** 2. a certainty.' (1894).

This sense is Australian.

Mooning: *bush* a method of shooting opossums. Opossums are night feeders, and at full moon season by getting a tree between oneself and the moon and exploring the limbs by walking to and fro a good aim can be obtained at any opossum discovered. (Quotes in Morris.)

AND gives **Moon**, *v. trans.* 'To hunt (a possum) on a moonlit night: see quot. 1893. Freq. as *vbl.n.*' (1886). The first citation using the term **moonning** is (1893).

This term is Australian.

Moscow: the pawnshop: to moscow anything is to pawn it.

B&L give: Moshkenner, to pawn an article for more than it is worth. Probably from Yiddish or Germ.—Hebrew mos—money kenner—one who knows, one who is fly.

AND gives '**moscow** *n.* [f. prec.] A pawnshop.' and cites Baker 1941, a passage from *Caddie* (1953), and a 1955 glossary from Pulliam (which is taken from Baker 1943.) Wilkes cites the 1882 *Sydney Slang Dictionary* and Baker.

DNZE gives two citations, (1908 and 1939).

There is also a citation in *ANDC*'s files:

L. Esson's 'Brogan's Lane' in *Bells and Bees*, 1910.

'Flash Fred, when he dives on a red lot, can choose

To **moscow** the swag at a Polaky Jew's.

Tho' bled by old Isaac, he needn't complain,

Rats pinch from their brothers down Brogan's Lane,

Brogan's Lane, Brogan's Lane,

The melting pot bubbles in Brogan's Lane.'

Wilkes gives another piece of evidence, a citation from Hardy (1990). The earlier evidence in *DNZE* suggests the term was used in New Zealand first.

Mot or motsy: a girl, sweetheart. B&L give: *mot general* a harlot.

1. *OED* gives '**mot** *n.* ³. 2. A girl, a woman; one's girlfriend, one's wife.' (1837).
2. *OED* gives '**mot** *n.* ³. 1. A promiscuous woman or girl; a harlot, prostitute. *Obs.*' (1773).

It appears S&O'B are suggesting the sense given by B&L is the source for the first sense.

This term is not Australian.

Motherless: comparative: motherless broke, motherless stiff, i.e. very poor, very impecunious: the superlative is 'dead.' Derivation from orphaned, friendless: in Bedford motherless is used in the sense of *protector* or friendless.

Ran. Bedford, Bulletin 8.4.99 Jack Wilkes a true Bill

And now as motherless and stiff as ever was a sailor man.

For I can't desert, I'm motherless broke.

[B gives: '*unprotected* or friendless.'

A & B give: *Ran. Bedford, Bulletin 8.4.99 Jack Wilkes a true Bill;*

(H) :- '*And now as motherless and stiff as ever was a sailor man:-*

2. '*For I can't desert, I'm motherless broke.*']

AND gives '**motherless**, *a.* and quasi-*adv.* Used as an intensive, esp. in the phr. **motherless broke**, destitute of money; also *ellipt.* for *motherless broke.*' (1898).

This term is Australian.

Mucker-out: *turf* a nickname given by jockeys and stable boys who ride to the lads who only groom and muck out, i.e. clean out the stables.

OED gives '**mucker** *n.* 1. A person who removes dung, esp. a cleaner of stables.' (1229).

This term is not Australian.

There is no evidence for the term **mucker out** which is given by S&O'B

Mullock: *mining* the refuse or valueless stuff mined in shaft-sinking or following up a lead, lode, or reef.

2. Among contractors and navvies, any excavated earth or rock.

3. Nonsense, rubbish, anything valueless. Poking mullock syn. with poking borak, to chaff or tease or banter a person.

Morris gives as obsolete English of Chaucer's time meaning refuse.

Mullock: B&L give: *mining slang* rubbish: from old English *mull* dirt, rubbish. Mullock is literally the moraine, the heaps of earth and other rubbish accumulated by glaciers.
Poking mullock.

There are two entries for Mullock in the manuscript.

1. AND gives '**mullock** *n.* 1. **a.** Mining refuse.' (1855).

This sense is Australian.

2. There is no evidence for this sense, but it appears to be a form of sense 1.

3. AND gives '**mullock** *n.* 2. *fig. a.* Rubbish; nonsense; 'muck'.' (1866).

This sense is Australian, but it was recorded first in N.Z.

AND gives '**mullock** *n.* 2. **b.** In the phr. **to poke mullock**, to mock; to deride.' (1916).

The phrase was clearly current before the earliest citation in AND.

This term is Australian.

Murphys: potatoes: obvious allusion to general Irish connection with potatoes. B&L give: *Dunnovans tinker*, potatoes, probably an Irish name corrupted or misspelt.

OED gives '**Murphys** *n.*² 1. A potato.' (1811).

This term is not Australian.

Mutton: *vulgar* women and girls. A push M.C. in a dance-room called out the invitation 'Hook your mutton for the next dance.' B&L give: *bite of mutton*. A nice woman generally in a questionable sense.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Hook your mutton: i.e. take your partners.]

The spelling of **bite** is not correct, the headword in B&L is '**bit of mutton**.'
See **Hook yer Mutton**.

N

Naicest (nicest) people, the very: *journalese* has its origin in an expression made use of by a Colonial plutocrat at a meeting to establish a pastime and sporting club—golf, cycling, riding etc, :- where the nicest people could meet in the very nicest way: Naice is a pronunciation of nice common among Colonials who strive to speak in the English way.

OED gives '**naice** a. Freq. *derogatory*. Genteel, over-refined, or affected, in a manner supposed to be characteristic of or agreeable to the English upper classes.' (1905).

This term is not Australian.

Nan-nan: a straw hat for men's wear: by transference, to the gangs of youths who affect these hats, either for cheapness or showiness. They are well known in Sydney as the 'Nan-nan or Straw-hat' push. A straw hat a few years ago was known as a donkey's breakfast. The cry to the wearer was 'Ba, ba, who shook (stole) the donkey's breakfast?' The genesis, no doubt, of 'Nan-nan.'

AND gives '**nan-nan** Obs. [Perh. f. *nancy* effeminate man.] A straw hat (in quot. 1899 used *attrib.*); also *transf.*, a dandy.'

1899 (*Bulletin*), 1907 (*Truth*), 1910 (*S&O'B*) and 1941 (*Baker*) as citations.

The evidence in *AND* is not convincing, but there is other evidence from Henry Lawson (1899), and W.T. Goodge (1899). Both citations are in Wilkes 1996. The Baker citation is likely to have been derived from *S&O'B*, giving extended use to the term.

S&O'B are correct about the term **donkey's breakfast** being used for a straw hat, but **donkey's breakfast** is not Australian.

OED gives '**donkey** 3. b. **donkey's breakfast** *slang*, (b) a straw hat.'

1909 J.R. WARE *Passing Eng.* 114/2 When a gent puts a donkey's breakfast a-top of his nut.

1935 'J. GUTHRIE' *Little Country* vi. 131 City men in the bowler hat and in the straw hat that was called a donkey's breakfast.

Both Ware and Guthrie are British.

(The term **nan-nan** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but not after 1945.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

Green gives late 19C (Aus.).

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from *S&O'B*.)

Nark or knark: a disagreeable person, a marplot, informer, or malcontent. *Thieves slang*, to nark the pitch or game, is either to spoil it or suspend it. Knark it, synonymous with hedge it and turn it up, is a thieves or spielers' warning cry when police approach.

B&L give: *thieves a police spy*—and that it seems to have some connection with Dutch 'narruken' to follow about, to spy, and 'narrecht,' information.
I prefer back spelling of krank, German—sick, similar in construction to cronk, crook, cranky.

1. OED gives '**nark** *n.* 1. a. An annoying, unpleasant, obstructive, or quarrelsome person. In later use chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*' (1846).

This sense is Australian.

2. AND gives '**nark** *v.* Obs. [Spec. use of *nark* to exasperate.] *trans.* To thwart (a scheme, etc.)' (1891).

This sense is Australian.

3. OED gives '**nark** *n.* 2. a. An informer; spec. (more fully **copper's nark**) a police informer.' (1859).

This sense is not Australian.

OED gives the etymology as uncertain with a possible Romany source.

Nark: to tease, spite or annoy: any person in a temper is said to be narked.

OED gives '**nark** *v.* 2. a. *trans.* To annoy, exasperate, infuriate.' (1888).
This term is not Australian.

National debt:

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

There is evidence that may explain S&O'B's intention.

Rolf Boldrewood's *A Romance of Canvas Town And Other Stories* (1901):

"'I'll wire Ferretter to buy in for the whole amount,'" said Mr. Quartzman, who was the first to recover his faculties permanently. "I am so delighted I can hardly speak. I feel quite another man again. I have a presentiment we shall win this time, wife! If we do, we shall be only adding a trifle to the national debt which we owe to St. Portia here."

This citation suggests a large personal debt. The standard sense of this term is the Nation's debt. This term may have been used in Australia with the meaning Boldrewood uses. A citation in the *Bulletin* suggests the term is used as an alternate name for a swag.

Neddy: a horse, from old Neddy, a donkey.

AND gives '**neddy**. [Transf. use of *neddy* a donkey.] 1. A horse.' (1887).

OED gives '**neddy** 1. a. A donkey; an ass.' (1545).

This term is Australian. S&O'B are correct in their assertion that this term is transferred use of the standard term for donkey.

Never-Never: Morris has quote of date 1857 of derivative value, '84, '87, and '90 quotes only give present use.

[Morris relies on the quotes, he does not give a definition. The quotes refer to inland unoccupied country.]

AND gives '**Never-Never. 1.a.** The far interior of Australia; the remote outback.' (1833).

This term is Australian.

Never, on the: on the cheap, on the free list, on credit without any intention of paying up: on the never-pay system. Perhaps a transference or adaptation of Never-Never.

AND gives '**on the never-never**, at no cost to oneself; in a (financially) exploitative manner.' (1882).

OED has '**on the never** denoting a system of paying for articles by periodic instalments over an extended period.' (1926+).

The standard sense appears to differ from the Australian sense in that in the standard sense one does pay for the goods and in the Australian sense the goods are not paid for.

It is clear that S&O'B's origin is correct.

This term is Australian.

New-chum: Morris

[**Morris: New-chum**, *n.* a new arrival, especially from the old country: generally used with more or less contempt; what in the United States is called a 'tenderfoot.']

AND gives '**new chum A. n. 2. transf.** A newly arrived immigrant.' (1828).
This term is Australian.

Nightmare: nickname for damper, which see.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Nipper: a tool or water-carrier (mostly boys), called so by navvies and miners.

AND gives '**nipper** A youth employed to do odd jobs in a labouring gang, esp. to make tea.' (1915).

OED gives '**nipper** *n.* 1. 4. *colloq.* (orig. *Brit.*). a. Originally: a boy who assists a costermonger, carter, etc. Later (more generally): the most junior member of a group of workmen, esp. one employed in menial tasks.' (1851).

This term appears to have originated in Britain in the context of a costermonger or carter. The Australian sense is more general and applies to a boy employed in any labouring work.

Nobbler: only *nobble* is a pretty old word, perhaps as Morris says a variant of *nab*. But old sporting writers speak of 'nobbling', poisoning or drugging a horse. Then there is *hob-nob*, which practically means to booze up in company.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: To be hail fellow well met.]

[**Morris: Nobbler**, *n.* a glass of spirits; lit. that which nobbles or gets hold of you. *Nobble* is the frequentative form of *nab*. No doubt there is an allusion to the bad spirits frequently sold at bush public-houses, but if a teetotaler had invented the word he could not have invented one involving stronger condemnation.

Nobblerise, *v.* to drink frequent *nobblers*.]

1. OED gives '**nobble** *v.* 2. *trans.* a. To tamper with (a horse or greyhound) to prevent it from winning a race, e.g. by giving it a drug or laming it.' (1847).

2. DVT gives '**Hob or Nob**. Will you hob or nob with me? A question formerly in fashion at polite tables, signifying a request or challenge to drink a glass of wine with the proposer. [a custom from the time of Queen Bess, when] Will you have a hob or nob seems only to have meant, Will you have a warm or cold beer? i.e. beer from the hob [next to the fire], or beer from the nob [a small table called a nob].'

The Australian senses of the term, given by Morris, are:

1. AND gives **nobbler** 'A measure of spirits; the glass in which it is served.' (1842).

2. AND gives **nobblerize** 'To drink nobblers; to drink spirits generally, esp. in company with others.' (1847).

These senses are Australian.

Nod; on the cheap: B&L gives: odno, thieves and roughs' back slang for no-do (perhaps *nodo*, S. O'B.)

Travelling in the train on the odno [sic]—without paying the fare Syns. On the bow-wow, on the never, on the jolly good fellow, on the bustle, on the free list: getting into a theatre or any other entertainment without paying, obtaining drink or goods on credit.

[A & B do not give: obtaining drink or goods on credit.]

OED gives '**nod**, *n.* 1. 7. **on the nod**. b. *slang*. On credit; free, gratis.' (1882). This term is not Australian.

Nugget: Morris

[**Morris: Nugget**, *n.* a lump of gold.

Morris Nugget, *v.* [Morris relies on quotes and gives no definition. His first quote reads] "To nugget: in Australian slang, to appropriate your neighbours' unbranded calves."]

AND gives '**nugget**, *n.* [Br. dial. *nugget* a lump of anything; a short, thickset person or animal; see *EDD*. Used elsewhere in senses 1a. and b. but recorded earliest in Aust.]'

AND gives '**nugget**, *n.* 1. a. A lump of native gold.' (1851).

This sense is Australian.

AND gives '**nugget** *v.* 2. To steal (unbranded calves).' (1881 to 1905).

This sense is Australian, but appears to have been obsolete when this material was compiled.

S&O'B do not suggest which Morris entry they intended for their dictionary.

Nut: *slang* a hard case, a wit, or tough character.

Tommy the Nut. Billy the Nut. etc. all pretty tough nuts to crack, mostly fighting men. Compare with Morris.

[**Morris: Nut**, *n.* (1) Slang. Explained in quotation.

1882. A.J. Boyd, 'Old Colonials,' p. 60:

"the peculiar type of Australian native (I do not mean the aboriginal blackfellow, but the Australian white), which has received the significant *sobriquet* of 'The Nut,' may be met with in all parts of Australia, but more particularly ... in far-off inland bush townships. ... What is a nut? ... Imagine a long, lank, lantern-jawed, whiskerless, colonial youth ... generally nineteen years of age, with a smooth face, destitute of all semblance of a crop of 'grass,' as he calls it in his vernacular."

Morris: Nut (2) Dare-devil, etc. "Tommy the Nut" was the *alias* of the prisoner who, according to the story, was first described as "a larrikin" by Sergeant Dalton.]

OED gives '**nut** *n.*¹ and *a.*² 6. **b.** *colloq.* (orig. and chiefly *Austral.*). A troublesome or unruly young man. Now *rare*.'

'1882 A. J. BOYD *Old Colonials* 60 What is a Nut?.. Imagine a long, lank, lantern-jawed, whiskerless, colonial youth.

1882 A. J. BOYD *Old Colonials* 65 He is a bully, a low, coarse, blasphemous blackguard what is termed a regular colonial Nut.

1902 J.S. FARMER & W.E. HENLEY *Slang* V. 78/2 *Nut*,..3. (provincial). A harum-scarum ass.

a1903 H. LATHAM in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (1903) IV. 313/1 [West Yorkshire] He's a little nut and gets war every day.

1941 S.J. BAKER *Pop. Dict. Austral. Slang* 50 *Nut*, a young larrikin, a high-spirited young dare-devil.'

OED gives very little evidence for this term. The only two citations which are not from dictionaries are both from A.J. Boyd *Old Colonials* 1882. The last

citation is from Baker 1941. This term may have had some limited use in Australia but it appears to be American in origin. See **tough** below:

OED gives '**tough** *a. (adv., n.) tough nut colloq. (orig. U.S.), a person difficult or dangerous to deal with;*' 1862.

The standard sense of the term is also in *OED*.

OED gives '**nut** 4. With allusion to the difficulty of cracking hard-shelled nuts: a difficult question or problem; a matter or undertaking difficult to accomplish; a person hard to deal with, conciliate, etc. Now usu. with *crack*, esp. in **a hard** (also **tough**) *nut to crack*.

With reference to persons, explicit contextual allusion is now freq. dropped: see sense 6.' (1540). (This sense shown above)

There are examples of this term being used in Australia in the standard sense:

Federation Debates, Sydney 1897.

'The Finance Committee, no doubt, found this a very difficult **nut to crack**; but that committee sat for about ten days, and the other committee who revised their labours - the Committee of Treasurers - sat for several days in addition.'

E. Favenc's, *The Moccasins of Silence*. 1896.

"'Yes. That's a **hard nut to crack**, and Madame da Lucca will use all her influence with the poor fellow, to thwart us.'"

M. Gaunt, *Dave's Sweetheart*. 1894.

'Easy as rolling off a log for the man that knows it, but a **hard nut to crack** for anyone else.'

H. H. Richardson's *Australia Felix*. 1917.

'John expected to find the reverend gentleman a **hard nut to crack**, their views on the subject of a state aid to religion being diametrically opposed.'

There are three examples which relate to horses.

A.B. Paterson's *The Animals Noah Forgot*. 1933.

'The Brigadier of the Mounted Fut, like a cavalry colonel swanks
As he goeth abroad like a gilded **nut** to receive the General's thanks:
The Ordnance Man is a son-of-a-gun, and his lists are a standing joke;
You order "Choke arti Jerusalem one" for Jerusalem artichoke.

The Medicals shine with a Number Nine, and the men of the great R.E.'

M. Clarke's *Long Odds*, A Novel. 1869.

"'Stockrider" was a colt that Bob had bought in Kirkminster, and named, it would seem, in fond remembrance of past times at Ballara. ... "'Stockrider" is as **hard as a nut**," says Bob, with a pardonable colonialism. "I'll run him.'"

R. Boldrewood's *Sydney-side Saxon*. 1891.

'When she and I were a few years younger, and she was a slip of a girl, I broke in her first pony for her, and a regular "**nut**" he was, as full of mischief as a pet dingo, but she could ride him, and anything else for that matter.'

This sense, relating the tough nut to animals appears to be confined to Australia. This use of the term **nut** was not given by either S&O'B or Morris.

O

Off colour: inferior, not up to standard. Also, sick or indisposed. Horses of uneven colour are spoken of as being off colour. Perhaps the term has some connection with the mining term 'colour' as applied to minute specks of gold showing in a prospect. Ounces to the dish, grains to the dish, a few colours, not a colour,—are terms denoting richness or poorness of a prospect. 'Off colour' may be synonymous with 'not a colour.'

OED gives '**off colour, off-colour**, *a. 2. gen. a.* Not of a colour considered natural, proper, or acceptable; paler or darker than expected or usual. 1873. *b.* In extended use. Not in good health, slightly unwell; (also) not up to the mark, defective, deficient, out of order.' (1876).

This term is not Australian.

Off his beat: see beat.

Off his block: see block.

Off his oats: *slang* sick, indisposed, unable to eat well. A racing term applied to horses in training which, through sickness, over-racing, or over-training, are not good doers, that is, good eaters, or refuse to eat.

OED gives '**oat n. 4. e. off one's oats** colloq., off one's food.' (1890). This term is not Australian.

Off-sider: *bush slang* it is common for big teams to have two drivers: the driver in chief, who looks after the polers and brake, and the off-side driver who looks after and turns or directs the leaders: with teams of eighteen or twenty bullocks working on rough and tortuous tracks this is necessary. The terms off and near side are the usual horse terms. Anyone inferior in personality or skill is spoken of as an off-sider. A man will sometimes call his wife his off-sider.

1. *AND* gives **offsider** '**1. a.** A bullock-driver's assistant; an assistant in an occupation or enterprise.' (1879).

OED gives '**offsider n¹**. *Austral. and N.Z. colloq. 1. a.* A bullock driver's assistant, esp. one attending to the offside of the team. Now chiefly *hist.*' (1879).

This sense is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**offside**, a¹ [Spec. use of *offside* the right side of an animal, vehicle, etc.] Of a bullock team: of or pertaining to the right-hand side (as opposed to the near or left-hand side).' (1847).

OED gives '**offsider** *n.* 1. *Austral. and N.Z. colloq.* 2. The offside bullock in a bullock team. Now *hist.*' (1903).

OED gives '**nearside** *n.* and *a.* 3. Designating the left-hand horse in a team of horses; = *NEAR* *a.* 3b. Now *rare* (chiefly *U.S. regional*).' (a1840).

This sense is Australian. The term for this sense is **offside**, as given by S&O'B.

3. *AND* gives **offsider** '1. *b.* With occupation specified: **cook's offsider**.' (1910).

OED gives '**offsider** *n.* 1. *Austral. and N.Z. colloq.* *b.* In extended use: an assistant, deputy, or partner; a companion, 'sidekick'.' (1904).

S&O'B's sense of the term **off-sider** applied to a wife is correct, but there is no evidence for the term applied to a person 'inferior in personality or skill.'

Ogg: *slang* a shilling: ten ogg, two ogg, etc. spelt hog sometimes, but always pronounced 'ogg.' I have a fancy that this has an old Irish derivation: worth looking up.

OED gives '**og** *n.* chiefly *Austral. and N.Z. slang (disused and hist.)*. A shilling.' (1908). The evidence appears to be New Zealand, spelt both **og** and **ogg**.

OED gives '**hog** *n.*¹ 8. *slang*. A shilling. In *U.S.*, a ten-cent piece.' (1673).

DNZE give '**ogg** variety of British shilling, **hog** or small coin.' (1908).

Four of the six citations in *DNZE* drop the 'H'.

In the *Concise Ulster Dictionary* the term is spelt with the 'H'.

There is no Irish evidence of **ogg** without 'H'.

This variant of **hog** is from New Zealand.

Old chum: Morris

[This entry is only in A & B]

[**Morris: Old Chum**, *n.* Not in common use: the opposite to a new chum.]

AND gives '**old chum** 2. *Obs.* In miscellaneous collocations: **old chum**, *OLD HAND*; also *attrib.*; **colonist**, see *COLONIST* 3; **colony**, New South Wales; **settler**, see *SETTLER* 3; **squatter**, a long established, substantial land owner (see *SQUATTER* 2 and 3); **thing**, see *quots.*' (1832 to 1915).

This term is Australian.

Perhaps the entry was removed from the last draft as it was losing currency.

Old hat:

Old hat is also a vulgar name for the female article of commerce.

[This entry is only in A & B]

See Hat.

Morris gives '**Old Hat**, a Victorian political catch-word.'

The use of the word 'also' by S&O'B indicates that they may have intended to use Morris's sense. S&O'B's 'vulgar' sense is present under the headword **Hat**.

Old Man: Morris.

[This entry is only in A & B]

[**Morris: Old Man**, *n.* a full-grown male Kangaroo. The aboriginal corruption is *Wool-man*.]

AND gives '**old man A. n. 1.** A fully grown male kangaroo, esp. the *grey kangaroo*.' (1827).

This is an Australian term.

This term was probably removed from the last draft as it is a term for fauna.

Old-timer: an ex-convict or expirée: one who had served his time or had been pardoned: this use is obsolete.

2. Any old colonist, an old settler or resident of the olden times.

[Newspaper clipping 23.11.1897? attached to A:-

Lately-deceased Gov. Weld placed the Westralian press 'on a proper social basis.' In the early days many members of the 'Fourth Estate' were 'old-timers,' and so were not actually admitted to public feeds, but were allowed to come in afterwards and report the speeches. One 'untainted' scribe demurred to this arrangement, and refused to take any note of the speeches at public functions.

OED gives '**old-timer n. 1.** A person with long experience of some place or position; an elderly person.' (1855).

Although S&O'B's explanation of the first sense seems logical, there is no evidence in the files of ANDC for this term except for the one piece below:

'W. Hay's *The Escape of the Notorious Sir William Heans* 1918.

Even among the free it was invariably taken as a statement. In the present case the officer approached, smiled angrily, stammering, "Yes—yes, I've had the honour of meeting you several times. My name's Karne."

At that moment the red-faced gentleman drew attention to the hieroglyphics on the wall, announcing that some "**old-timer** had been emphasizing his sentiments in the stone."

This citation is not proof that the writer is referring to a convict, although it seems likely that it is a convict reference, as the book is about convicts. There is not enough evidence to suggest this term was widespread in Australia.

On: I am on, I am willing, I am game: synonymous with 'Barkis is willing.'
2. On with: in push circles, keeping company or courting is spoken of as 'I am on with her,' 'She is on with me.'
3. On your own: separately, distinctly: to work or play a lone hand: of your own initiative and by your own skill or industry.

1. *OED* gives '**on** *adv., a., and n.* 1. **d. to be on** (usu. in first person singular): to be in favour; to be willing to participate.' (1886).

This sense is not Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**on** *adv.* 2. **a.** In the phr. **on with**, amorously involved with.' (1903).

This sense is Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**own** *n.* 3. **c. on one's own**: on one's own account, responsibility, resources, etc.' (1895).

This sense is not Australian.

Oont: a West and Central Australian nickname for camels. ? Origin, perhaps Afghan.

AND gives **oont** '[a. Hindi (and Urdu) *ūnt* camel; also in Indian English: see *OEDS*.] A camel.' (1918.)

OED gives '**oont** *Anglo-Indian and Austral. colloq.* A camel.' (1815).

The word is from Hindi; many of the 'Afghans' were in fact Indians. S&O'B suggest the correct origin.

This term is widely used in Australia.

Ould bert: an obsolescent Irish Colonists phrase, meaning Ireland, See dart.

[This entry is only in A & B.]

There is no evidence of this phrase.

Ould dart: *Irish idiom* the old land or country: Irish emigrants and colonists speak of Ireland as 'the ould dart.'
Morris quotes perhaps.

[A & B add to the end of the entry:—Irish origin.—Grose gives—Dart, a straight aimed blow in boxing.]

There are two entries in the manuscript. This entry was under 'D', see also **Dart**.

Morris gives only the term **dart**.

Morris gives '**dart**, *n.* (1) Plan, scheme, idea [slang]. It is an extension of the meaning—"sudden motion,"

(2) Particular fancy or personal taste.'

Morris's citations belong with the entry for **dart**. There is no entry for **old dart** in Morris.

Ould Dart: an obsolescent Irish Colonist's phrase, meaning Ireland. See B&L for dart.

The term **dart** is not in B&L.

AND gives '**old**, *a.* Used in collocations denoting the British Isles, esp. England: **Dart** [dial. pronunc. of dirt.]' (1892).

OED gives '**ould** a representation of an Ir. pronunciation of OLD *a.*'

The early spelling of the term was **ould dart** as stated by S&O'B.

It seems likely the derivation for the term **old dart** is Irish, from the term **ould**, meaning 'old', and **dart**, meaning 'dirt.'

This term is Australian on the assumption that Irish colonists would not have used the term before leaving Ireland.

This citation suggests S&O'B were correct:

N. F. Spielvogel's *The Gumsucker at Home*. 1914.

'In '46 there was a potato famine in the "Ould Dart." Crops failed and "the hunger" spread over the land. In spite of assistance from England and the United States, thousands died from sheer starvation.'

Overlanding: taking stock (cattle, horses or sheep) overland either to market or to stock new country.
Overlanding, in general, travelling overland.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Sometimes used for swagging i.e. tramping on foot.]

1. AND gives '**overlanding** *vbl. n.* 1. The driving of stock over a long distance.' (1847).

This sense of the term is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**overland** *intr.* To travel by land.' (1885).
This sense of the term is Australian.

P

Pack: abbreviation of pack-horse: hack – riding horse.
To pack – to clear out, to travel: abbreviation of 'to pack up and get.'
E. Favenc. 8.1.98

AND gives '**pack**, a. 1. Used *attrib.* in Special Comb. not necessarily peculiar to Aust. but of local historical significance'. (1832).
This term is not Australian.

Paddock: 1. Land 2. Mining Morris good.

[**Morris: Paddock**, (1) In England, a small field; in Australia, the general word for any field, or for any block of land enclosed by a fence. The 'Home-paddock' is the paddock near the Home-station, and usually very large.
(2) An excavation made for procuring wash-dirt in shallow ground. A place built near the mouth of a shaft where quartz or wash-dirt is stored.]

1. AND gives **paddock** '1.a. A piece of land, fenced, defined by natural boundaries, or otherwise considered distinct; usu. a section of a rural property and, on a sheep or cattle station, often of considerable size.' (1808).
This sense is Australian.
2. AND gives **paddock** '2. Mining. a. In shallow alluvial mining, an area marked out and systematically excavated for wash-dirt.' (1855). 'b. A storage place for wash-dirt or uncrushed quartz.' (1858).
This sense is Australian.

Pakeha: Morris good.

[**Morris: Pakeha**, *n.* Maori word for a white man. ...]

DNZE gives **Pakeha** (1832).
This term is from New Zealand.

Panel, of fence: Morris good: in addition, two panels are one rod of fence in rough measurement. S. O'B.

[**Morris: Panel**, *n.* the part between two posts in a post and rail fence.]

OED gives '**panel** *n.*¹ 8. A section or compartment of a fence or railing; a hurdle.' (1489).
This term is not Australian.

Pannikin:

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

It is difficult to assess this entry as S&O'B only provided the headword.

Morris gives '**Pannikin**, *n.* a small tin cup for drinking. The word is not Australian.'

OED gives '**pannikin a.** A small metal (usually tinned iron) drinking vessel; a cannikin; also, the contents of such a vessel. Exceedingly common in Australia (*Austral Eng.*).'

AND gives **pannikin** '[Br. dial. *pannikin* small (earthenware) pan or jar: see EDD and OED(S.) **1.a.** A metal drinking vessel; the contents of such a vessel.' (1830).

AND gives the distinction between the British term 'an earthenware cup', and the Australian term 'a tin cup.'

This sense of the term is Australian despite Morris's assessment.

Pannikin boss or overseer:

[**Morris: Pannikin-boss, or Pannikin-overseer**, *n.* The term is applied colloquially to a man on a station, whose position is above that of the ordinary station-hand, but who has no definite position of authority, or is only a 'boss' or overseer in a small way.]

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

AND gives '**pannikin 4.** Special Comb. **pannikin boss, overseer**, one who has only a small degree of authority.' **Pannikin boss** (1898), **pannikin overseer** (1891).

These terms are Australian.

Pan out, or off: *mining* the process of prospecting for gold by washing alluvial specimens over in a dish is known as panning off. A large dish resembling somewhat a milk dish is used. The dirt or gravel is kept swirling around in the dish by a deft movement of the hands, and water is continually added till the loam or clay is all dissolved and washed off. Sometimes it is necessary to knead the matrix. Eventually the heavier pieces of gravel, stone, or pebbles can be picked out, and the gold, if any, by reason of its specific gravity will remain in the bottom of the dish. This is the ordinary test for alluvial mining.

To 'pan out.' A dish may pan out anything from a colour to an ounce and over or may be a duffer.

2. By transference, to any business venture or speculation. How did it pan out? i.e. what did it yield or result in.

1. OED gives '**pan v.**¹ **1. trans.** To wash (gold-bearing gravel, sand, etc.) in a pan, in order to separate the gold; to separate by washing in a pan. Const.

off, out.' (1839). OED gives **panned out** (1839), **pannin' out** (1872), **panned off** (1879).

The first citation in OED is American.

OED gives '**pan** v.¹ 4. *intr.* (usually with *out.*) To yield gold, as gravel, etc. when washed in a pan; hence *transf.* of the vein or mine, to yield precious metal.' 1849.

Moore gives **panned out** (1852) and **panning off** (1869).

The first evidence for **pan off** is therefore 1869 and Australian.

2. OED gives '**pan** v.¹ b. *fig.* To yield good results, show to advantage, succeed; also, to work out, to have a result (not necessarily something favourable).' (1868).

The term **pan off** is Australian. The term **pan out** in both senses is not Australian.

Paralyze: to astonish, to astound.

There is no clear evidence for this sense, although it is an unsurprising extension of meaning.

Pastoralist: a more modern and classical name for squatters. A squatter or sheep and cattle raiser as distinguished from an agriculturist.

AND gives '**pastoralist**. [Spec. use of *pastoralist* 'one who lives by keeping flocks of sheep and cattle': see OED(S.) The owner of a substantial stock-raising establishment or of a number of such establishments.' (1880). This term is Australian.

Pastry: kudos, praise, flattery. 'That takes the bun' or 'pastry,' i.e. takes the palm.

OED gives '**cake** n. 7. a. **take the cake**, (U.S. **cakes**): to carry off the honours, rank first; often used ironically or as an expression of surprise.' (1579).

F&H gives 'TO TAKE THE CAKE, phr. (common).— ... The prize is the cake and the winner takes it.' They add that there were 'whimsical variations.'

This is a variation on a common term.

Payable: *mining* any reef, lead or load that will pay for working. Payable wash: a payable lode: a payable reef. Auriferous wash is sometimes called pay-dirt. 2. Anything that returns a profit for capital and labour expended. A payable contract. Different to the sense of 'Bills Payable' in bookkeeping.

1. and 2. *OED* gives '**payable a. 3. Mining.** (In active sense.) Of a mine, a bed of ore, a vein of metal, etc.: That can be made to pay, or yield an adequate return for the cost of working; capable of being profitably worked. Hence *transf.* in general sense: Capable of yielding profit, commercially profitable; paying.' (1859).

This term is not Australian in either sense.

Peacocking: Morris.

[**Morris: Peacocking**, *vb. n.* Australian slang. To *peacock* a piece of country means to pick out the eyes of the land by selecting or buying up the choice pieces and water-frontages, so that the adjoining territory is practically useless to any one else.]

AND gives **peacocking** (1892).

This term is Australian.

Peg out: to die, to peg out a 6 x 2: allusion to diggers pegging out a claim and the ordinary grave dimensions. Possibly a cribbage connection: to run out the game, to peg out.

Peg out: the legal method of taking possession of a claim under a miner's right: 4 pegs are driven so as to enclose a certain area or less of surface.

1. *OED* gives '**peg v. III. 13. peg out: f.** To die; to be ruined. *slang.*' (1855).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

The suggested source from cribbage is not correct as the first evidence, 1870, is later than the evidence for 'to die', 1855. See below.

OED gives '**peg v. III. 13. peg out: d. intr. Cribbage.** To win the game by reaching the last holes before the 'show' of hands.' (1870).

2. *OED* gives '**peg v. 2.** To insert a peg into, provide with a peg.' '**5.** To mark with pegs; esp. to mark the boundaries of (a piece of ground, a claim for mining or gold-digging, etc.) with pegs placed at the corners: usually **peg out.**' (1852 W.H. HALL *Pract. Exp. Diggings Victoria.*)

Moore gives the first citation for **peg out**, sense 2., 1852.

This sense of the term is Australian.

Pen-man: a journalist.

OED gives '**penman 3. a.** A writer or composer of a book or other writing; an author, a writer.'

1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 6 That palpable asse..that would make any penman privy to our secret sciences.

1673 KIRKMAN *Wits Pref.*, The most part of these Pieces were written by such Penmen as were known to be the ablest Artists that ever this Nation produced, by Name Shake-spear, Fletcher, Johnson, Shirley, and others.

1710 SHAFTESBURY *Charact.* III. II. i. (1737) I. 224 Able Penmen rais'd to rehearse the Lives, and celebrate the high Actions of great Men.

1886 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. iv. 135 The grand ball taxing to the utmost the powers of the penman who described the event next day in the *Morning Herald*.'

This is a standard term for a writer. The only citation which refers to a journalist is the 1886 citation from Dowden.

There is no evidence for this term being described exclusively as a journalist.

Penny-a-liner: casual journalists: free lances who are paid according to the matter they write which is accepted and printed. A slur invented to taunt a newspaper in Sydney which paid its irregular staff a penny a line.

[A & B gives: regular.]

OED gives '**penny-a-liner** A writer for a newspaper or journal who is paid at a penny a line, or at a low rate (usually implying one who manufactures 'paragraphs', or writes in an inflated style so as to cover as much space as possible); a poor or inferior writer for hire; a hack-writer for the press. (*contemptuous*).'

(1834).
This term is not Australian.

Pen-pusher: a clerk or journalist.

OED gives '**pen-pusher** One who is engaged in writing or desk work; a clerk; a writer (freq. derogatory).'

(1911).
S&O'B's entry is early evidence of this term.

This term is not Australian.

Pen-woman:

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

OED gives '**penwoman**, A woman skilled in the use of a pen; a female writer.'

(1748).

It is likely that this was the female version of **pen-man**, therefore we can assume this would be a female journalist.

There is no evidence for this term being exclusive to a journalist.

Perish, doing a: *slang* bush and city. In city, to sleep out in parks, to be homeless. In bush, to be short of food, water, or tobacco. Generally to be perishing for the want of anything. 'Doing a perish for a drink.'

E. Favenc. 8.1.98

OED gives '**perish** *n* 2. *Austral.* A state of near starvation, great thirst, or any kind of deprivation or destitution; esp. in phr. **to do a perish**: to come to such a state. Also trivially (see quot. 1941).' (1894).

1941 BAKER *Dict. Austral. Slang* 53 *Do a perish*, suffer greatly from thirst, hunger or destitution.

1. The only evidence for 'to sleep out in parks, to be homeless' is the 1941 citation referred to in *OED*. This citation is from Baker 1941 which is obviously derived from S&O'B.

There is no other evidence for this sense of the phrase **doing a perish**.

1. In the bush sense *AND* gives '**perish**, *n*. 2. *b.* To die, esp of thirst.' All the citations refer to being in the outback, but the meaning is to die rather than being without (anything).

There is no other Australian evidence for S&O'B's sense.

2. In the general sense *AND* gives '**perish**, *n*. 2. In the phr. **to do a perish**. *a.* To suffer a period of extreme privation; to be without sustenance (esp. water).' (1897).

This sense is Australian.

(This term in the first sense is in Baker 1941, 1943 but not after 1943.

EP 1967S adds this sense to sense 2 which was in his previous dictionaries.

Green gives late 19C+ (mainly Aus.)

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Peter: a parcel: 'So while I was looking about I piped a little peter,' Horsley, *Jottings from Jail*.
A cash box. *Aust. thieves*: peter—prison.
Peter nicking—till stealing.

[There is no entry for Peter in A & B.]

1. *OED* gives '**peter** 6. *a.* *Thieves' Cant* and *Taxi-drivers' slang*. A portmanteau or trunk; a bundle or parcel of any kind.' (1668).

This sense is not Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**peter** 6. cashbox *b.* *Criminals' slang*. A safe or cash-box; a cash register, a till.' (1859).

This sense is not Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**nicking** *n*. 2. 4. Chiefly *Brit. colloq.* The action of taking or stealing something, or of arresting someone.' (1883).

The term **peter nicking** is not Australian.

The only Australian sense is not given by S&O'B: *AND* gives '**peter** a prison cell; a prison.' (1890).

This sense is Australian.

Piccaninny: Morris

[**Morris**: **Piccaninny**, and **Pickaninny**, *n.* a little child. The word is certainly not Australian. It comes from the West Indies (Cuban *piquinini*, little, which is from the spanish *pequeño*, small, and *niño*, child). The English who came to Australia, having

heard the word applied to negro children elsewhere, applied it to the children of the aborigines. After a while English people thought the word was aboriginal Australian, while the aborigines thought it was correct English. It is pigeon-English.]

1. *OED* gives '**piccaninny, pickaninny**, *n.*, (*a.*) **A. n.** A little one, a child: the term (which now often gives offence when used by people of European extraction) refers in the West Indies and America to children of Black African ethnic origin; in South and Central Africa and in Australia to those of the aboriginal peoples; in the latter cases introduced by Europeans, but often adopted by the natives themselves. Also attrib.' (1657).

This sense is not Australian.

2. *AND* gives **piccaninny** 'An Aboriginal child; any child.' (1817).

This term was transferred from West Indian but used mostly in Australia to mean an Aboriginal child.

Pic-nic: Morris

[**Morris: Picnic**, *n.* Besides the ordinary meaning of this word, there is a slang Australian use denoting an awkward adventure, an unpleasant experience, a troublesome job. In America the slang use is "an easy or agreeable thing." ('Standard.') The Australasian use is an ironical inversion of this.]

AND gives '**picnic** 1. [Ironical use of *picnic* a pleasurable excursion.] An awkward or disordered occasion or experience; an unpleasant situation.' (1896).

OED gives '**picnic**, *n.* **c. transf.** and *fig.* Now usu. something straightforward or agreeable; a lively time; a treat; **no picnic, not a picnic**, not an easy task; a formidable undertaking.' (1818).

OED gives '**picnic**, *n.* **d. Austral.** and *N.Z.* Used ironically of an awkward situation or a difficult or unpleasant experience.' (1896).

Morris's entry is correct.

The ironic sense of the term is Australian.

Pig-feeder: an epithet applied to apprentices in the mercantile marine whose duties are said to be to learn navigation and to feed the pigs, poultry, or other live provisions carried aboard.

OED gives '**pig** *n.* ¹ **13 b.** pig-feeder.' (1810).

This term is not Australian.

Pig-meater: *obsolete* Morris.

[**Morris: Pigmeater**, *n.* a beast only fit for pigs to eat: one that will not fatten.]

AND gives '**pigmeater** Obs. A beast which is unfit for human consumption.' (1879 to 1900).

This term is Australian.

Pinch: *thieves to steal.*

OED gives '**pinch** v. **15. trans. a.** To steal, to purloin (a thing); to rob (a person). *slang.*' (1656).

This term is not Australian.

Pinch out: *mining* Morris.

[**Morris: Pinch-out**, v. to thin out and disappear (of gold-bearing).

This use is given in the 'Standard,' but without quotations; it may be American.]

OED gives '**pinch** v. **14. intr. Mining.** Of a vein or deposit of ore: To contract in volume, become narrow or thin; with *out*, to come to an end, 'run out'.'

1867 J.A. PHILLIPS *Mining & Metallurgy Gold & Silver* iv. 56 The lode, which is eight feet wide on the north side of the Eureka, pinches out very rapidly in that direction.

This term is recorded first in Australia.

This term is Australian.

Piner: a plain deal coffin as distinct from a more elaborate polished cedar or oak one.

AND gives '**piner** An artefact made of pine.' (1895). The 1895 citation from the *Bulletin* reads 'A Melbourne undertaker complains that the local cadaver is now almost invariably content with a stained **piner**.'

The *Bulletin* citation for **piner** is the only citation which relates to a coffin in AND.

However there is some evidence for this sense of the term. For example:

The Bulletin Story Book: A Selection of Stories and Literary Sketches from "The Bulletin" (1902).

'Flynn now remembered that he had packed the groceries in the coffin the day before. He it was who carted the casket out from Ballarat; and, having goods to carry at the same time, he packed them into the "**piner**" for "convenience," and by reason of the thirst that came upon him and possessed him for two days "disremimbered ivrything aftherwards."

This term is Australian, but appears to have had limited use.

Pipe: *obsolete* Tasmanian

AND gives '**pipe** 1. *Hist.* A lampoon against a prominent person, written on a piece of paper rolled into a tube and left in a public place; a pasquinade.' (1816 to 1852.)

AND gives '**pipe** 2. A long, tubular cavity in the centre of a tree trunk or log of wood.' (1882 to 1908)

It is impossible to know what the intended definition was for this entry, although Morris has the same sense as AND **pipe** 1.

Morris's entry is supported by two quotes from Tasmania, which suggests this was the intended definition.

Pipe: *modern thieves' slang* to watch, to spy upon, or keep under surveillance.

Hotten (1887) gives '**pipe** to follow or dog a person; to watch, to notice.' This term is not Australian.

Pitch: *slang* to talk.

Pitch a tale: *thieves and beggars* to tell a story or lie;

Pitch a fairy, pitch a yarn: to tell a yarn or story. May have connection with pitch-and-toss—gambling with two pennies and a piece of wood known as 'the kip.'

A verbose 'pitcher' is often requested to 'pass the kip,' i.e. let somebody else pitch a yarn. Pitching a yarn—spinning a yarn—spinning pennies in pitch-and-toss.

Pitch – a place, has an old showman and gypsy usage.

(B&L give refer I have copied but mislaid)

Knark or nark the pitch: see nark. Syn. with 'cruel the pitch.'

[Newspaper clipping 13.11.1897 attached to A:-

One night he was in the bloke's hut 'doin' a pitch,' when the bloke was mending an old coat. Noticing how handy the latter was with the needle, the 'broker' asked him to tinker up his old trousers. The bloke said he would, and the old trousers were stripped off and handed over. 'An' I jes' perched round, sociable like, in my boots, while he patched my duds. Well, that was all right. Nex' day, I shifted down to another pitch, ...]

[A & B add to end of entry: To spoil the plot or venture. To upset the arrangements.]

1. 'talk' OED gives '**pitch** *n.* 2. **5 slang. a.** A talk, chat: cf. PITCH *v.*¹ 17d.' 1888 R. BOLDREWOOD *Robbery under Arms* III. xv. 232 Starlight and Jim were having a pitch about the best way to get aboard one of these pearling craft, and how jolly it would be.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 2/1 We now have a 'pitch' with the men; 'pitch', be it said, is another term for talk.

This term may be Australian, there is no other Australian evidence.

2. 'tell story or lie' *OED* gives '**pitch** v.1. 17.d. *slang*. To utter, tell. Cf **PITCH** n.² 5b.' (1867).

This sense is not Australian.

3. 'pitch and toss' *OED* gives '**pitch** v.1. III. To cast or throw in particular ways.'

OED gives '**pitch** v. 1. III. 17. a. *trans*. To cast, throw, or fling forward; to hurl (a javelin, spear, or bar, or a person headlong; to throw anything flat with retention of its horizontal position); to throw (a thing) underhand so that it may fall and rest on a particular spot. Also *absol.*' (1386).

This sense is not Australian.

4. 'pitching a yarn' *OED* gives '**pitch** n. 2. b. Tendentious or persuasive acting or speech, esp. inflated or exaggerated sales-talk; an instance of this, a 'line'.' (1876).

OED gives '**yarn** n. 2. a. *to spin a yarn* (*fig.*, orig. *Naut. slang*), to tell a story (usually a long one); also, 'to pitch a tale'. Hence *yarn* = a (long) story or tale: sometimes implying one of a marvellous or incredible kind; also, a mere tale. *colloq.*' (1812).

This sense is not Australian.

5. 'a place' *OED* gives '**pitch** n.2. b. An act of pitching or fixing upon a thing or place.' (1791).

This sense is not Australian.

6. 'nark the pitch' *AND* gives '**cruel**, v.[f. *cruel*, a., perh. infl. by *to queer* (*the pitch*).] *trans*. To spoil (an opportunity, etc.); to ruin (the chances of a person or enterprise succeeding).' (1899).

AND gives '**nark** v. to thwart a scheme.' (1891).

S&O'B give **nark the pitch** as a synonym for **cruel the pitch**. The terms **nark** and **cruel** are Australian.

Pithing: the commonest colonial method of slaughtering bullocks. A stage or platform is erected over the killing pen on which the slaughterman stands. He wields a long stick with a sharp steel point which he drives into the spinal cord of the bullock at the open place where the spine joins the skull.

OED gives '**pith** v. 3. To remove or extract the pith from. Also *fig.*' (1852).

'Hence **pithed** (pt) *ppl.* a.; **pithing** (p) *vbl. n.*, also *attrib.* as in **pithing-pole**, a pole having a sharp blade at one end, for pithing cattle.' (1831).

This term is not Australian.

Pithing pole: the spear used in pithing.

OED gives '**pith** v. 3. as in **pithing-pole**, a pole having a sharp blade at one end, for pithing cattle.' (1831).

This term is not Australian.

Plant: to hide. Morris.

[**Morris: Plant**, v. *tr.* and *n.* common in Australia for *to hide*, and for the thing hidden away. As remarked in the quotations, the word is thieves' English.]

OED gives '**plant** v. 8. To hide, to conceal; esp. stolen goods. orig. *Thieves' slang*; now esp. *Australian*.' (1610.)

AND gives **plant** (1812).

This term is Australian.

Plant: a plan, plot, or surprise. 'To spring a plant' on anyone is to suddenly discover something to or of them.
Plant—a plot or ready-up.

OED gives '**plant** n. 8. A scheme or plot laid to swindle or defraud a person; an elaborately planned burglary or other form of theft or robbery. (The notion appears to be that of a trap or snare carefully planted or laid in the ground and covered up.) *Sharpers' slang*.' (1825.)

This term is not Australian.

Planter: a cattle thief (obsolete) Morris.
A Queenslander or Fiji sugar planter.

[A & B only]

1. AND gives '**planter** One who steals and hides stock.' (1890).
This term is Australian.

2. OED gives '**planter** 1. One who sets plants in the ground to grow, or who sows seed; hence, a cultivator of the soil, a farmer, an agriculturist.' (1382).
This term is not Australian.

Pocketing – or pocket mining: not Australian: B&L confuse by referring this to fossicking, two separate and distinct methods: pocket mining is placer hunting.

OED gives **pocket** n. '**pocket-miner** U.S. = *pocket-hunter*, so **pocket-mining** vbl. n.' (1872).

This term is not Australian.

Poddy: an early-weaned or motherless calf or foal that is brought up artificially. The method is to dip the hand into a vessel of milk and induce the youngster to suck or lick the fingers held in a bunch. Afterwards when stronger it will follow the hand back to the milk and learn to drink the milk from the vessel. Pollard or bran is sometimes added to the milk to fatten a calf for killing.

AND gives '**poddy** *A. n.* **1. a.** A calf; orig. one old enough to wean and fatten, later (esp.) one yet unbranded.' (1872). '**b.** A calf (less freq. a lamb or foal) which is handfed.' (1898).

This term is Australian.

Pointers: second pair of bullocks in a team (Morris)
The two large stars near the Southern Cross.

1. *AND* gives '**pointer**, *n.*³ [Spec. use of *pointer* that which points out.] **1. PIN-BULLOCK.**' (1872.)

This sense of the term is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**pointer**, *n.*¹ *pl* [Transf. use of *pointers*, *pl.* the two bright stars in the Great Bear.] The two stars Alpha and Beta *Centauri* in the Southern cross, a line drawn through which passes almost through the head of the Cross.' (1864).

OED gives '**pointer** **5. pl.** The two stars and in the Great Bear, a straight line through which points nearly to the pole-star: Sometimes also applied to the two stars and in the Southern Cross, which are nearly in a line with the South Pole of the heavens.' (1892).

This sense of the term is Australian.

Point it: 'Potatoes and point' is an old joke. A man who had only potatoes and salt dipped the potatoes in the salt and then pointed them at a bone. He thus stimulated his imagination and made believe that he had meat also.

OED gives '**point** *n.*¹ **7.** The act of pointing: in the humorous phrase **bread** or **potatoes and point**, the action of merely pointing or looking at the relish, such as cheese, bacon, fish, etc., and making one's meal of bread or potatoes only. (*dial.*)' (1831).

This term is not Australian.

Points: *thieves and general* working points, i.e. living by your wits, dodging or loafing at work.

OED gives '**to get points** gain an advantage.' (1881).

AND gives '**pointer**, *n.*² *obs.* 'A sharper; an idler.' (1853).

There is no evidence of the S&O'B term **points** but considering the *AND* term it is probable that this term was used.

Poisoner: see bait-layer.

[Newspaper clipping August 1897, Red Page attached to A:-

Cook—'Poisoner' Well-known through N.S.W. and Q. for many years.
First applied to bad cooks, but now generalised.]

AND gives '**poisoner**, A cook, esp. one catering for a party of shearers, etc.' (1905).

This term is Australian.

Poley: dehorned or hornless: a corruption of polled: polled Angus cattle, a breed perfected by scientific breeding till they are hornless. Correct this poley.

[A & B add to the end of the entry: Cattle that have no horns.
A & B omit: Correct this poley.]

AND gives '**poley**, *a.* and *n.* Also **poly**. [Br. dial. *poley*, etc. *f.* *poll* a hornless cow or ox: see EDD *poll*, *sb.*²] **A. adj. 1.** Hornless.' (1843).

This term is Australian.

Popping up: *bush* getting on: 'How are you popping up?' 'How are you living?' 'How are you coming on?' 'How's things?' 'How is it?'

AND gives '**pop** *v.* In the phrase **how are you popping (up)?** how are you getting on?' (1894).

This term is Australian.

Post and rail: a built fence of posts which are mortised to receive the rails. A fence may be two, three, four, six or eight railed: the higher fence is usual in stock or drafting yards. Use in contradistinction to chock and log, dog-leg, or wire fence.

2. Coarse inferior tea containing a lot of the fine stalks of the tea plant: much of the tea imported has been – even still is – of inferior quality, veritable rubbish.

1. *AND* gives **post and rail** '[Used elsewhere (esp. U.S.) but of considerable local significance. see OEDS.] **1.a.** *pl.* The component parts of a *post and rail fence* (see sense 1b.)' (1802). '**b.** In the phr. **post and rail fence**, a strongly constructed wooden fence, consisting of two or more horizontal rails morticed into upright posts.' (1820).

This sense of the term is recognised as an Australian term.

2. *AND* gives '**post and rail** 2.a. In the phr. **post and rail tea**, a coarse tea of inferior quality, so-called because particles of stalk, etc., float on its surface.' (1843).

This sense of the term is Australian.

Pot: *popular and racing* a first favourite, leader, or big man. Put the pot on: *racing* to upset the plans of anyone intent on winning a stake.

Boil over, for the pot to: means that the plan of succeeding has of its own luck gone wrong and failed. Between pot in this sense and pot, slang for a racing or other competition cup connection vide 'pot-hunting.'

1. *OED* gives '**pot**, *n.*¹ 9 c. *Racing*. 'A horse backed for a large amount, a favourite' (*Farmer Slang*). (1823). '**d.** A person of importance. (Usually **big pot**.)' (1880).

This sense is not Australian.

2. In the sense to upset plans *AND* gives '**pot** *n.* 3. *fig.* In the phr. to **put the** (or someone's) **pot on**, to inform on, to thwart the prospects of.' (1864.)

The idiom is Australian.

3. In the sense that the expected result has failed *AND* gives '**boilover**. Orig. *Horse-racing*. [Fig. use of *boil over* to overflow: see *HOT POT*.] **a.** A surprise result; the unexpected defeat of the favourite.' (1871).

This sense of the term is Australian.

Pot-hunting: sham sports in rifle shooting who, while claiming to be amateurs, will not shoot for pure sport, but always enter where there is a valuable cup or trophy: applied to other amateur sports.

OED gives '**pot-hunter** 3. One who takes part in any contest or competition merely for the sake of winning a prize.' (1873).

This term is not Australian.

Pot-walloper: scullery maid: cook: kitchen servant: obviously from pot cleaning.

OED gives '**pot-walloping**, *n.* *nonce-wd.* The boiling of a pot; in quot. the sound produced by the boiler of an engine.' (1849).

This term is not Australian.

Pouf, or poufter: a sodomite or effeminate man.

B&L give: Pouf—an epithet applied by actors to a silly fellow who imagines himself an actor.

AND gives '**poufter** or **poofter** a male homosexual.' (1903).

OED gives '**poofter** also **pooftah**, **poufter**, **pufter** *slang* (chiefly *Austral.*) [Fanciful extension of POOF] A homosexual; an effeminate man. Also used as a general term of abuse to a man.' (1910). (S&O'B).

The term **poufter** is Australian.

OED gives '**pouf**². var of POOF *n* 1.'

OED gives '**poof** *n.* ¹. *slang* 'An effeminate man, a male homosexual; a man who acts or speaks in an affected manner. Also *attrib.* Similarly **poove** (*pu v*) *n.*; also as *v. intr.*, to act like a poof, to speak or behave in an effeminate or affected manner; **pooved-up** *ppl. a.* Often considered offensive.' (c1850-60).

The term **pouf** is not Australian.

Poverty Point: *actors' journalese* corner of King and Castlereagh Streets, Sydney, meeting place for actors out of an engagement, avoided by in-work pros for fear of lug-biting, i.e. borrowing.

Wilkes gives '**poverty point** Cnr Park and George Streets.' He gives three citations, 7.6.1889 *Bulletin*, 5.6.1974 *Sydney Morning Herald* and 1982 *Australian*.

There is not enough evidence for **Poverty Point** to establish widespread usage, although the name of a column in the *Bulletin* was 'At Poverty Point.' The *Bulletin* column heading is Wilkes' first citation. The evidence suggests that the term was in use in Sydney, but it was obviously very localised, and limited to a particular occupational group. This term is also encyclopedic.

Prat: *Aust. thieves* to talk: I pratted him, i.e. asked him or accosted him: obviously from prattle.

But B&L give: Prat, to: thieves to go or enter—I pratted into a house—Horsley, Jottings from Jail.

AND gives '**prat**, *v.* [Perh. *f. prat* the backside; see OED(S *sb.*² Prob. not excl. *Austral.*: see Partridge.) In the phr. **to prat** (oneself, one's frame) **in**, to butt in, to push oneself forward.' (1903).

The term **prat**, in this sense, is not recorded in OED.

This term is Australian.

(In his 1941 & 1943 editions, Baker gives '**prat**—To talk to, speak to someone. **prat one's frame in**—To interfere, butt in.' Neither of the terms is in his 1945 dictionary. Only the latter is in the 1959 edition.

EP 1967S gives '**prat**—to speak, to talk to someone Australian low: since ca. 1918. B., 1942.'

Green gives [1910s+] (Aus.)

The citation appears in *Kia Ora Coe-ee*, the magazine of the ANZACs compiled by C.E.W. Bean with contributions by the Australian and New Zealand forces in W.W.1. which was published in 1918.)

Pre-empt: *slang* obsolete: Morris

[Morris: **Pre-empt**, *n.* a slang abbreviation for pre-emptive right.]

Morris cites Boldrewood.

OED gives '**pre-empt**. *n.* 1. A pre-emptive right. *Austral. colloq.*'

1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* xxiv. (1891) 322 My friend has the run, and the stock, and the pre-empts all in his own hands.

The citation from Boldrewood is the only evidence for the term given in *OED*.

OED gives **pre-emptive** *a. (n.)* '**A. adj.** 1. Relating or belonging to, or of the nature of pre-emption. Also *fig.* **pre-emptive right**, the right to pre-emption; also, in Australia, land held by such right.' (1855).

There is Australian evidence for the term pre-emptive in this sense:

G.C. Mundy's *Our Antipodes or, Residence and Rambles in the Australasian Colonies, with a Glimpse of the Goldfields*. (1852).

'It was indeed, in some sort, finally cut by the Imperial Government, who, in pity to the embarrassed association and their still more embarrassed constituents, granted to it a Charter of Incorporation, a large loan of money to enable the Company to meet its liabilities and carry on its operations, a right of pre-emption in native land (the peculiar privilege of the Crown), together with sundry other immunities and advantages;'

M.A.H. Clarke's *Old tales of a young country*. (1871).

'They held virtual pre-emptive rights, and the speculator never knew but that at the last moment his next-door neighbour would produce a "preliminary" order, and swoop upon the section he had hoped himself to secure.'

Sir H. Parkes's *Fifty Years in the Making of Australian History*. (1892).

'had never spoken otherwise than against the provision for pre-emptive leases; but disturbance of land holdings is always dangerous and unwise, unless absolutely necessary, and it did not seem to me absolutely necessary to disturb that right; it is a thing to which I always objected.'

G. Ranken's *Windabyne: A Record of By-gone Times in Australia*. (1895).

"Well then, Major, read the Orders—fourteen years' lease, right of renewal, pre-emptive—and there's been a meeting at the Club.'

R. Boldrewood *A Romance of Canvas Town And Other Stories*. (1901).

"You're a liar," says Rougham, "fellows as steal grass would tell a lie for sixpence any day. You go off this private land, it's a pre-emptive right, or I'll make you." The gentleman said he didn't think it was private land.'

G.H. Reid's *My Reminiscences*. (1917).

'The maximum area each selector could purchase was 160 acres, and that carried a pre-emptive right to lease 480 acres adjoining.'

J. Furphy's *Rigby's Romance*. (1921).

'The Colonel, seeing me fold the aborigine appurtenance of my slumber, with the woolly side in, and spread it on a clear space, near Dixon's waggon, removed his own bedroom suite from the waggonette, and **pre-empted** an allotment contiguous to my selection.'

This sense of the term **pre-empt** is Australian.

Primage: (Victorian Customs Duties) Morris.

[**Morris: Primage**, *n.* The word is of old commercial use, for a small sum of money formerly paid to the captain or master of the ship, as his personal perquisite, over and above the freight charges paid to the owners or agents, by persons sending goods in a ship. ... Now-a-days the captain has no concern with the freight arrangements, and the word in this sense has disappeared. It has re-appeared in Australia under a new form. In 1893 the Victorian Parliament imposed a duty of one per cent. on the *Prime*, as the Customs laws call the first entry of goods. This tax was called *Primage*, and raised such an outcry among commercial men that in 1895 it was repealed.]

OED gives '**primage** A customary allowance formerly made by the shipper to the master and crew of a vessel for the loading and care of the cargo; also called *hat-money*; subsequently merely a percentage addition to the freight, paid to the owners of freighters of the vessel.' (1297).

Although this term was in use for a time, the term **primage** is not Australian.

Prohibition order: a development of the liquor reform movement in New Zealand, an outcome of temperance agitation: by means of this order, which is advertised or exhibited, the friends of any person may debar them being served with alcoholic beverages: obtainable against habitual drunkards from a bench of magistrates.

There is no other Australian evidence for this term.

DNZE has citations 1904, 1905 and 1959.

This term is from New Zealand.

Prop: *horse* when a horse going at a fast pace stops stock still, stiffening his legs—as in refusing a jump—he is said to prop. Stock horses are trained to prop. When a stockman is pursuing a breakaway bullock he suddenly props his horse in front of or against the bullock to stop it. A horse that can prop and wheel round in another direction is very useful in cattle mustering and droving, and the whole performance is the acme of horsemanship.

AND gives **prop**, *v.* '1.a. *intr.* Of a horse: to stop abruptly when moving at speed.' (1844).

This term is Australian.

Prospect

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

OED gives '**prospect** v. **II. Mining**, etc. Orig. *U.S.* **4. intr.** To explore a region for gold or other minerals.' (1848).

Assuming this is the mining sense, the term is not Australian.

Pulling the leg: B. & L: to impose upon, to cram one.

Aust. syns. : to take a rise out of a person, 'to get one on a string,' To engage a person in an argument out of mischief, to get them excited or astounded with false or exaggerated arguments, reports or information.

OED gives '**leg** n. **17. a. leg-pull** [f. the phr. *to pull one's leg*: see **LEG** n. 2a], the act of deceiving a person in a playful way, a humorous deception (so **leg-puller**, **-pulling** ns.);' (1915).

This term is not Australian. S&O'B used this in a standard sense to compare with the 'Australian' synonyms, 'to take a rise out of a person' and 'to get one on a string.'

OED gives '**rise** n. **6. b. to get, have, or take a rise out of** (one), to make a butt of, raise a laugh at, by some form of pretence or dissimulation.' (1834).

This phrase is not Australian.

OED gives '**string** n. **1. f.** A cord for leading or dragging along a person or an animal; a leading-string, a leash. Also in figurative phrases (especially common in 17-18th c.), esp. **to lead in a string, to have in (or on) a string** = to have under control, to be able to do what one likes with.' (a1300).

This phrase is not Australian.

(The term '**legpull** (a deception or hoax)' is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959.)

Puncher: Aust a bullock driver is known as a bullock puncher, from the free use of the butt of the whip handle to punch the near-side bullocks.

AND gives '**bullock puncher.** A bullock driver.' The first citation is from NZ (1856), the second citation is Australian (1859).

DNZE gives '**puncher.** *bullock-puncher* (**BULLOCK** n. 2 a); occas., a drover.' (1889). The meaning of the first citation from *DNZE* is not clear. The other citation is from 1900 and the meaning is clearly concerning using a whip to drive animals but it is not clear if the citation is referring to a drover or a bullock driver. Defined as a 'bullock driver' this term is predominantly Australian.

Punter: *betting slang* a small cautious bettor who bets in and out, i.e. plays something several ways to try and win at least a small stake. In contradistinction to a 'plunger,' i.e. one who bets heavily to win a large stake on one chance only. The large majority of betting race-goers are punters. Some professionals 'punt' for a living.

[B adds by hand: POINTER—point by point.]

OED gives '**punter** ¹ 2. *transf.* A small professional backer of horses. Also, one who gambles in stocks and shares, or on football pools.' (1873). This term is not Australian.

Pups: *mining exchange term* when prospectors or speculators take up a large area and float one portion first and then the balance in separate areas, such as—original float, say the Golden Lead, then the Golden Lead Extended, the Golden Lead South, North, West, or East—the latter floats would be known as the Golden Lead pups.

[Newspaper clipping 27.3.1897 attached to A:-

The world has received the wired assurance of Randolph Bedford that 'there is nothing wrong with the mines at Bulong (W.A.), that they are looking well—only market operations.' Perhaps Mr. Bedford will be good enough to wire something of the same sort *re* the General Gordon mine and pups, the shares and shareholders of which have gone wrong and are very sick. Strange that the market does not lose its reason concerning the Boulder, Lake View, and Ivanhoe.]

Given the above newspaper clipping and the following passage from ANDC's files, there may have been limited use of the term **pups**.

The Barrier Miner (1888).

'The Central Company have only two of the four blocks referred to above, the other two having been floated into a Company, the scrip of which is sometimes called 'pups'.'

Pure: *syn* for good. Mostly used in a sarcastic sense. To say something very criminal or immoral was 'pretty pure,' for instance. Anything impudent, illogical, or irreverent would also be called pure.

OED gives '**pure** *a. (n., adv.)* IV 8.a. *slang or colloq* (? Orig ironical) A general term of appreciation. Fine, excellent, capital, jolly, nice, splendid. Now *rare* or *obs.*' (1675.to 1884) Also '**pure** *a. (n., adv.)* III 5. b. **b.** Applied mockingly to Puritans; also to Quakers. *Obs.*' (1598 to 1785).

This entry appears to be an extended use of the obsolete 'ironic' sense of the term.

The adverb **pretty** is standard English.

OED gives '**pretty** *adv.* 1. **a.** To a considerable extent, considerably; in a fair or moderate degree, fairly, moderately, tolerably; rather. Sometimes expressing close approximation to *quite*, or by meiosis equivalent to *very*; at other times denoting a much slighter degree. (Qualifying an *adj.* or *adv.*)' (1565).

The phrase **pretty pure** is not Australian, although it may have survived longer in Australia than Britain.

Push: *slang* a crowd or mob of roughs, larrikins or hoodlums. A particular association or gang of a lawless kind. First heard in Sydney by writer about '85 or '86. A music-hall parody of a few years later ran:-

The push were shouting 'Come on, come on,'
Pushing their way right through the throng,
One had a rock in the heel of a sock,
As the boat sailed away down to Chowder:-

This parody was sung 'at' the push who favoured the sixpenny gallery of the particular Music-hall.

In Sydney the more notorious pushes were The Rocks, The Gipps Street, The Waterloo, and The Liver Push.

In Melbourne, the Bouverie Street Push, or as they were called, The Bouveroos.

Push has by transfer come to be applied to any coterie, clique, or particular class. The Government House Push, The Potts Point Push, etc. Push in this sense is synonymous with 'set.' Its meaning also varies to that of 'ten,' 'upper ten,' 'lower ten,' 'the toffy push,' 'the common push.'

AND gives **push** '**a.** A group of people having a common interest or background; a coterie.' (1884).

AND gives **push** '**b.** *Hist.* A gang of larrikins; *larrikin push*,' (1890).

OED gives '**push** *n.*¹ 9. *slang.* A 'crowd' or band of thieves; a gang of convicts at penal labour (Farmer); *esp.* in *Australia*, A gang of larrikins; hence, Any company or party; a 'crowd', 'set', 'lot'. Also *attrib.*' (1884).

This term is Australian. The term is recorded first in sense **a**, in *AND*. The larrikin sense (**b.**) is recorded later than the more general use of the term **push**. There is no evidence of the larrikin sense before 1890. The term was used frequently by the *Bulletin* poets Lawson and Paterson, and a book was published in 1902 about the pushes. This was *The Great "Push" Experiment* by A. Pratt.

Push: *prison* B. & L: a gang associated in penal servitude labour. (Bad. S. O'B)

'Most of these pseudo-aristocratic imposters had succeeded in obtaining admission to the stocking party, which in consequence became known among the other prisoners as the upper ten push.' M. Davitt, *Leaves from a Prisoner's Diary*. How does date of Davitt's use run? Previous to colonial use, I think.

OED gives '**push** *n.* ¹ **9.** *slang.* A 'crowd' or band of thieves; a gang of convicts at penal labour (Farmer); *esp.* in *Australia*, A gang of larrikins; hence, Any company or party; a 'crowd', 'set', 'lot'. Also *attrib.*' (1884).

OED supports the convict sense by using Davitt 1884 and F&H. The Davitt citation does not refer to convicts and is not necessarily used in the prison sense.

AND gives '**push** A group of people having a common interest or background; a coterie.' The first citation is Vaux's Vocabulary (1812). This is the suggested source for the Australian sense of the term **push**, which is explored in the entry above.

O'Brien obviously did not like this entry, perhaps because it was only applied to convicts, although it was used more generally. O'Brien also notes that the **push** sense written about by Davitt was earlier than the colonial use of the term. The Sydney **push**, referred to by the 'writer' in the previous entry did not apply to convicts or prison.

There is no evidence of the 'prison' sense of the term **push**.

Push: Pusher: B&L give: *popular* a high-low or blucher boot. A square pusher, a girl of good reputation. Morris's quotes all good.

[Morris' quotes refer to the previous entry.]

OED gives '**pusher** A girl, a young woman; *spec* a prostitute.' (1923).

This term is not Australian.

There is no definition given for the headword **pusher**.

The citation below appears to support the standard use of the term.

F. Manning's *The Middle Parts of Fortune Somme and Ancre* 1916.(1929)

"An' then they give you a bloody party," said Glazier. "Madeley an' I went to one. You should a seed some o' the **pushers**. Girls o' seventeen painted worse nor any Gerties I'd ever knowed. One of 'em came on an' sang a lot o' songs wi' dirty meanings to 'em. I remember one she sang wi' another girl, '*I want a Rag.*' She did an' all, too."

The definition given is B&L's definition for a **square pusher**.

There is no Australian evidence for square pusher.

OED gives '**square** *n.* **V. 22.square-pusher** *slang*, (a) a respectable girl;' (1890). This citation is the one used by S&O'B from B&L.

The phrase **a square pusher** is not Australian.

Pushing the knot: carrying the swag: making a journey as a swagsman [sic].

[Newspaper clippings undated, attached to A:-

Carrying Swag—'Pushing the knot.' Very common in Q. and N.S.W. since 1891. Introduced by the city element who yearly come up-country for the wool season. Probably from the nautical knot, for mile.

Jack Shay: *Pushing the knot*, for carrying swag, may come from the nautical game (or punishment) which consists in making [fast?] one end of a rope, tying a knot close to the [fastening?], and working the knot in the other [end?] of the rope by labor and sweat. It's a tedious job like swagging—whence possibly a name-transfer. [A simpler derivation would be from the necessity a man who ropes his swag is under—when he rolls it in the morning—of keeping his finger on the slip-knot while he makes the encircling rope fast, or of *pushing the knot* to make it faster when he pulls with the other hand. The prevalence of luxurious swagmen with straps would account for the small and lessening vogue of the phrase.] The variant *Waltzing Matilda* (now rarely heard) was born from a 'tender' swagman's habit of resting his back by carrying the burden in his arms, when he and it are really suggestive of a lady and a gent. Embracing in the wrestlers' hug of a 'push' dance-room.

Jack Shay was Steve O'Brien's pen name. This article was in the *Bulletin* 17 December 1898.

AND gives **knot**. '1. In the phr. **to push the knot**, to travel carrying a swag.' (1896).

This term is Australian.

Pushite: *limited in use* more particularly means a rough larrikin. A member of a push in the original sense.

AND gives **push**. **d.** Hence '**pushite** *n.*, a member of a push, esp. in sense b;'. (1899). '**push** **b.** *Hist.* A gang of larrikins; *larrikin push*.'

This term is Australian.

Put on side: conceited, to show a large amount of self-importance to assume airs of superiority in any way.

OED gives '**to put on side** to give oneself airs.' (1878).

This term is not Australian.

Put the kibosh on: *Aust.* to put an end to anything: to upset anyone's plans or extinguish their projects. Possibly kibosh is a corruption of calabash, a vessel formed of the shell of a gourd.

OED gives '**kibosh** *n.* 1. In phr. **to put the kibosh on**: to dispose of finally, finish off, do for.' (1836.)

This term is not Australian.

See also **kibosh**.

Put up, or shut up: *pugilistic, sporting, gambling* stuff up, or shut up. 'Stop talking and put up your wagers or stakes.' General meaning, stop talking and come to business.

OED gives '**to put up or shut up** (chiefly US) defend yourself or be silent.' (1878).

This term is not Australian.

Put-up job: a plot or scheme arranged so that it will fail or the parties engaged will be detected. Engaging with a man in illicit distilling or other frauds and then informing against the person enticed to venture for the sake of the reward would be a put-up job: a police practice of a criminal kind to entrap criminals.

OED gives '**put-up** *ppl. a. 1.* (orig. *Thieves' slang.*) Arranged or concocted beforehand, as a burglary, by conspiracy with other persons, as servants in the house; preconcerted, planned in an underhand manner: see PUT *v.*¹ 56t. Often in phr. **a put-up job**. Also *absol. as n.*' (1810).

This term is not Australian.

Q

Quack: *Aust.* an unregistered or undiploma-ed doctor or medical practitioner, such as medical eclectics, pathological telepathists, faith healers, etc. Now applied to all medical men, whether good or bad.

B&L give a verse from Bird of Freedom:

Saying as a regular doctor

No longer she lacks,

I send her herewith a couple of quacks.

A pair of ducks accompanied this verse. Bird of Freedom.

OED gives '**quack** *n.* 1. **a.** An ignorant pretender to medical or surgical skill; one who boasts to have a knowledge of wonderful remedies; an empiric or impostor in medicine. = CHARLETAN 2.' (1659).

OED gives '**quack** *n.* 1. **b.** slang (orig. *Austral.* and *N.Z.*). A doctor (with no implication that he is unqualified); also in *Mil.* use, a medical officer.' (1919).

AND gives '**quack** [*Joc.* use of *quack* (medical) charlatan; used elsewhere but recorded earliest in *Aust.*]' A medical practitioner; an army medical officer.' (1919).

S&O'B's sense appears to be an extension of the British definition of a 'charlatan.'

Quartz and variants: Morris does all these.

[**Morris: Quartz**, *n.* a mineral; the common form of native silica. It is abundantly diffused throughout the world, and forms the common sand of the sea-shore. It occurs as veins or lodes in metamorphic rocks, and it is this form of its presence in Australia, associated with gold, that has made the word of such daily occurrence. In fact, the word *Quartz*, in Australian mining parlance, is usually associated with the idea of *Gold-bearing Stone*, unless the contrary be stated. Although some of the following compound words may be used elsewhere, they are chiefly confined to Australia.

The variants Morris includes are:

Quartz-battery, Quartz-blade, Quartz-crushing, Quartz-lodes, Quartz-reefer and Quartz-reefing.]

OED gives '**Quartz** 2. **b.** attrib. in other senses, obj., and obj. gen., chiefly in terms relating to the extraction of gold from quartz, as **quartz-battery**, **-crusher**, **-crushing** adj., **-gold** (see quot. 1874), **-mill**, **-mining**, **-prospecting**, **-reefing** (= mining), etc.'

OED has citations for **quartz reefing** (1861) and **quartz-crushing** (1882).

Moore gives the terms **quartz-crushing** (1855) **quartz-reefer** (1862) **quartz-reefing** (1858).

The earliest evidence for these terms comes from Australia.

The only Australian variants are **quartz-crushing**, **quartz-reefer** and **quartz-reefing**.

Queensland: Morris does all these.

[The text of all three give :**Quartz and variants:**

Queensland: Morris does all these

'Morris does all these' appears to apply to both entries.]

[Morris: Queensland, n. a colony named after the Queen, on the occasion of its separation from New South Wales, in 1859. Dr. J.D. Lang wanted to call it "Cooksland," and published a book under that title in 1847. Before separation it was known as "the Moreton Bay District."**]**

AND gives the term **Queensland** (1859).

This term is Australian.

R

Rabbit-catcher: *slang* vulgar nickname for midwives. Young girls are in 'push' circles known as 'rabbits.'

1. DVT gives '**Rabbit Catcher** A midwife.'
 2. *OED* gives '**rabbit** *n.* 2. transf. a. Applied contemptuously to a person; spec. (slang) a poor performer at any game; a novice.'
- The sense in *OED* appears to be the 'push' sense given by S&O'B.
This term is not Australian.

Rabbiter: one engaged in trapping or exterminating wild rabbits.

OED gives '**rabbiter** One who hunts rabbits; a rabbit-catcher.' (1872).
This term is not Australian.

Rabbiting: rabbit-trapping or exterminating: owing to what is known in Australia as the 'Rabbit Pest' the new industry of rabbiting was evolved during the middle and late Eighties. These wild rabbits, the progeny of imported tame rabbits, had increased to millions and were depleting many of the best pastoral areas of grass and herbage, and threatened to increase further and absolutely destroy the pastoral industry. The pest ultimately affected the wool industry to such a degree that special legislation was framed and special officers were appointed to cope with it. Rabbit-proof fences see *Fences* extending hundreds of miles, were erected to shut off infested districts from clean areas. Cats were liberated to run wild in hundreds. The Indian mongoose was introduced. Stock Boards were empowered to levy on squatters' flocks to provide funds to pay for scalps. A reward of £10000 was offered to anyone inventing a sure and efficacious means of rabbit extermination. Out of this was evolved the 'rabbiter.' He trapped, shot, and poisoned, and was paid according to the scalps he produced. He had also scalp bonuses on kangaroos, wallabies, dingoes, and other vermin. But there was always a suspicion that the rabbits were not too severely dealt with for fear of the occupation disappearing. The rabbit is still with us, having enormous breeding strongholds in areas such as the Coorong or Ninety-Mile Desert in South Australia, an enormous extent of abandoned country fit only for breeding vermin. From such areas Brer Rabbit can always issue into better country, rabbit-proof fences notwithstanding: in fact, it is alleged that gates in the fences are wilfully left open and the fences themselves wilfully damaged by mischievous and malicious persons to allow bunny an open run. The greatest blow the rabbit pest has received has come from an unexpected quarter. A demand for rabbits as food has been created locally, and the costermonger cry of 'Wild rabbits' is common in Australian cities when rabbits are in season. There is also a growing export trade in rabbits to England. The skin of the rabbit—the fur is used for fine hat felts—is also a growing article of commerce. Thus bunny, one time a mischievous and costly pest, has changed into a wealth-earning individual, and rabbiting, which had only the dignity of rat-catching or other vermin hunting, is now a well recognised and fairly lucrative bush occupation.

OED gives '**rabbiting** *vbl. n.* Hunting, shooting, or catching rabbits.' (1841). This term is not Australian.

Rabbiting: *Football* stopping and catching an opponent—while running with the ball—by the ankles to bring him down—at one time declared illegal, but since allowed by the rules of the game.

AND gives '**rabbit** To duck down in the path of an opposing player, so causing the player to trip or fall. Also trans., to trip (a player) in this way, and as *vbl. n.*' (1885).

This term is Australian.

Rag: B&L—Chewing the rag, or fat *army*: grumbling.

'Some of the knowing blokes, prominent among whom will be the 'grousters,' will in all probability be chewing the rag or fat.'

Brunless Patterson, 'Life in the ranks.'

Got the rag: Got his rag out: *Australian* in a temper, annoyed.

Grouser: in quote similar to *Aust* rouser, one who storms or rouses.

OED gives '**rag** *n.*¹ 3 c. Colloq. phrases. (a) ... Also **to chew the rag**: see CHEW *v.* 3g. (b) Expressing anger, as **to get one's rag out** and *varr.*: to become or make angry; **to lose one's rag**: to lose one's temper; **on the rag** (U.S.): angry, irritable.' (1810).

This term is not Australian.

OED gives '**grouser** 3. One who grumbles or complains.' (1885).

S&O'B are correct in asserting the term **grouser** is not Australian.

AND gives '**rouse** *v.*¹ [f. Scot. Dial. *roust* to roar, to bellow: see EDD *roust*, *v.*² and OED(S *roust*, *v.*¹ and *v.*³] *intr.* To scold. Freq. with **at**, **on**: to berate (someone).' (1896).

The term **rouse** is Australian only as a verb. The noun form is not Australian.

The term **rouse** is also in S&O'B as a separate entry.

Rager: *obs* Morris.

[**Morris: Rager**, *n.* an old and fierce bullock or cow, that always begins to rage in the stock-yard.]

AND gives '**rager**. *Obs.* An (old) untamed and aggressive bullock or cow.' (1876).

This term is Australian.

Rag-tag and bobtail: almost equivalent to English 'Tom, Jack, Bill and Harry.': Means a heterogeneous collection of people of no influence or standing, either individually or collectively: might be expressed as nobodies.

Bulletin, 9.4.99 Political Points—'The rag-tag and bobtail character of the platform support accorded to.'

OED gives '**rag-tag**, *n.* (a). 1. **a.** *collect.* The ragged disreputable portion of the community; the raff or rabble. **b.** One of the individuals forming this class.' (1879).

OED gives '**rag-tag**, *n.* (a). 2. **rag-tag** (or **rag, tag**) and **bob-tail** = 1a. Also *transf.*; sometimes = 'the whole lot'.' (1820).

This sense is the same as S&O'B's sense.

This term is not Australian.

Ram: *Aust. bush and popular* a libertine or licentious man: obvious connection with the virility of the stud ram.

OED gives '**ram**, *n.*¹ 1.c A sexually aggressive man, a lecher.' (1935).

DVT gives '**ram cat** A he cat.'

This entry antedates *OED* by approximately thirty years. This appears to be the first evidence of the term **ram** applied to a person.

Ram-struck mutton: *bush slang* old ewes past breeding—at one time the staple meat on a good many sheep stations.

Old Bush Song: And your delicate constitution, love,
 Couldn't be compared to mine,
 To digest that ram-struck mutton
 On the banks of the River-ine.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **ram-struck mutton** is in Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker (does not give which Baker) late C. 19-20.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Ranting: *slang* street-preaching. Any unattached or self-ordained preacher is known as a ranter. A cheap or sensational cleric of the fire-and-brimstone variety is also called a ranter.

[Newspaper clipping 3.4.1897 attached to A:-

What a subject for the ordinary 'ranting' parson to maunder about in his Sunday evening discourse—the insane bank-clerk with his throat cut writing on a scrap of paper that he was sorry he was an atheist.]

OED gives '**Ranting** *vbl. n.* 1. The action of the vb. RANT in various senses.' (1653). The citation 1768-74 gives the same sense as S&O'B:

1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 116 The bigot has been terrified by the rantings of some gifted preacher.

This term is not Australian.

Rat, to: to desert a political party when their fortunes are waning. 'Rats leave a sinking ship' is no doubt the origin. One or two Colonial papers have become famous for ratting from parties in power that showed signs of decay.

OED gives '**rat** v.¹ 2. *intr. a.* To desert one's party, side, or cause, *esp.* in politics; to go over as a deserter; to turn traitor. Also, in *Criminals' slang*, to inform.' (1812).

This term is not Australian.

Rats: a popular exclamation analogous with 'bosh,' 'you're silly,' 'nonsense,' 'fudge.'

OED gives '**rat** n.¹ 2 *e. slang* (orig. *U.S.*). Used ironically in *pl.* to express incredulity: 'humbug', 'nonsense'. Also as a general expression of disgust, annoyance, etc.' (1886).

This term is not Australian.

Rats: an abbreviation of 'Rats in your garret,' meaning silly, mad, or light-headed. Syn. with Scotch 'Bee in your bonnet.'

AND gives '**rat** 1.a. **to get (or have) a rat (or rats)**, to be eccentric, disturbed, or deranged.' (1890).

This term is Australian.

Rattler: *old thieves* the train.

Aust 'Jumping the rattler'—riding on the train without a ticket.

'Working the rattler'—hanging about railway stations, baggage-snatching, pocket-picking, or looking for victims on whom to work a confidence game.

OED gives '**rattler** 2. *b. slang* A (rattling) coach *gen.*, any (rattling) form of transport, *esp.* a train.' (1630).

OED gives '**rattler** 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 2c) **rattler hatband**; **rattler-jumper**, one who jumps (JUMP v. 6b) a train; so **rattler-jumping** *vbl. n.*' The first two citations in *OED* read:

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 7 Mar. 33/2 It looks as though the Queensland Government will have to run special trains to cope with 'rattler'-jumpers, who nowadays travel in packs.

1933 *Ibid.* 3 May 20/1 Of all vocations rattler-jumping is the least easy.

It appears that the assessments of S&O'B are accurate, that the noun **rattler** is old, and that **jumping the rattler** and **rattler jumping** are Australian. There is no evidence for **working the rattler**.

Ratty: silly, idiotic, mad. See Rats.

AND gives '**ratty a**. Mad, deranged.' (1895).
This term is Australian.

Ready-up: *slang* to suborn evidence for defence or prosecution. To ready-up a case: to plant goods to tempt a thief: to give opportunity for crime and then detect the criminal, would be a ready-up:

Gambling to introduce a trained pugilist as a novice and so induce an inferior pugilist to bet and get beaten. To clip, stain, or disguise and train a well-performed horse and ring him in to beat a lot of third-rate horses would be a ready-up.

Actually and literally means to have things made up beyond a possibility, nay, even of any chance of failure.

'Working a ready' is the process of carrying out a ready-up.

Morris's quote good.

OED gives '**ready**, v. **3.c**. Of a person. Also const. *up*. Now chiefly *N. Amer.* (a1340).' There are only three citations which use **ready-up**, the rest give **readied**:

1864 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 616/1 The pot ought to be a-bilin' for dinner, and the Kitchen to be readied up.

1900 H LAWSON *On Track* 73 Anyway, she'll have one readied up somehow.

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 25 July 38/1 This has invited the All-Blacks to call in on their way back from their tour of Britain next year and get what is being readied up for them.

OED gives '**ready**, v. **4.b**. *Australian*. With *up*: To prepare or manipulate in an improper way for some end.'

1893 *Melbourne Age* 25 Nov. 13/2 (Morris) It has been said that a great deal has been 'readied up' for the jury by the present commissioners.

1933 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 15 Nov. 33/1 All readied-up, I thought, though not bad fun.

OED gives '**ready C. n. 4. ready-up**, A conspiracy or swindle; a case of fraudulent manipulation; a fake. Cf. **READY** v. 4b. *Austral. slang*.' The OED citations read:

1924 *Truth* (Sydney) 27 Apr. 6 *Ready up*, a fake.

1926 J. DOONE *Timely Tips for New Australians* 7 Ready-up, a conspiracy.

1945 BAKER *Austral. Lang.* xv. 267 *Ready-up*, a case in which illegal methods are used to influence the outcome of a decision or an action.

1961 H. R. F. KEATING *Rush on Ultimate* v. 85, I don't accept all the pretences and ready-ups you people put out.

This term is not in AND.

The Australian citations in *OED* are from *Truth* 1924, J. Doone's *Timely Tips for New Australians*. (Jice Doone [Vance Marshall] relied heavily on Morris's dictionary.) and Baker. Baker acknowledges using S&O'B, Morris and Lake's dictionaries.

Ready-up appears in *Austral English* with a citation from *The Age* (1893). It is also included in Lake's *Supplement to Webster's International dictionary* (1898), *Macmillan (Aust) supplement* (1912) and Lawson's *Dictionary of Australian Words and Terms* (1924).

The independent citations for the term **ready-up** are from *The Age* (1893 cited in *OED* and Morris), Lawson (1900 cited in *OED*), *Truth* (1924 cited in *OED*), the *Bulletin* (1933 and 1934 cited in *OED*.) and Keating (1961 cited in *OED*).

This term is Australian. The North American use is **readied**.

(Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959, but not after 1959.

EP 1967S gives B., 1943.

Green gives [late 19C-1930s]

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Real Mackay: see Mackay.

Reconstructed:

There is no definition given in the manuscripts.

It is difficult to assess what the definition may have been. The term **reconstructed** is not an Australianism.

Reef: Reefing: Reefer: Morris.

[**Morris: Reef**, *n.* term in gold mining; a vein of auriferous quartz. Called by the Californian miners a vein, or lode, or ledge. In Bendigo, the American usage remains, the words *reef*, *dyke*, and *vein* being used as synonymous, though *reef* is the most common. In Ballarat, the word has two distinct meanings, viz. the *vein*, as above, and the *bed-rock* or *true-bottom*. Outside Australia, a *reef* means "a chain or range of rocks lying at or near the surface of the water." ('Webster.')

Reef, *v.* to work at a reef.]

Morris does not give the terms **reefing** or **reefer**.

AND gives '**reef** *n.* [Transf. use of *reef* a narrow ridge or chain of rocks. Used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.] A lode or vein of auriferous quartz.' (1854).

AND gives **reef** *v.* 'To mine auriferous quartz.' (1859).

AND gives 'reefer a. Obs. A mining claim in a reef.' (1854 only). 'b. One who mines such a claim.' (1859).

These terms are Australian. There is no evidence for **reefing**.

Registry Offices: employment agencies where masters requiring servants and servants requiring work are introduced or meet.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

2.1.1897: One 'labor-agent' - this sort of pirate calls himself a 'registry office' - shamelessly circularises his possible patrons to this effect:- Quarterly subscription, 5s.: 'membership' ends when the 'member' has obtained a billet through the 'office,' even though that billet may not last a month; fees—'for commercial situations, one week's salary(!); for professional, educational, or *other* appointments, 5 per cent. On one year's salary(!!); minimum charge, 10s.' If Outwork gets a billet at 15s. a week, and has to pay £1 railway and coach fare, and 10s. to the 'registry' cormorant, he having already paid 5s. as 'subscriptions' for 'membership,' and if he gets 'the run' in (say) a fortnight—not an uncommon practice, by collusion with the 'labor-agent'—and has to pay his return-fare to Sydney, he will be just £1 5s. out of pocket in cash, to say nothing about the cost his living while dawdling as a 'member' around the 'registry' office. The Bulletin not long ago showed how at least one 'labor-agent' was in a business conspiracy with an employer to halve all the fees from billetees, said employer, on his part, agreeing to find some excuse to break even a six months' agreement within a few weeks by discovering faults in his servant. Those who suck the blood of the miserable unemployed deserve no consideration from law. Here is exposed a direction in which it is the clear duty of a democratic State to interfere with the 'liberty of thect.'

13.3.1897: A northern correspondent to THE BULLETIN:

There exists an agency in Sydney which, for 10s. 6d. a head, will forward to any part of Queensland (or any other place, for anything I know to the contrary) big, strapping fellows from 16 years of age, bound down by agreement as 'generally useful' station-hands for three years, at the following rate of 'wages': £13 for the first year, £15 for the second year, and £20 for the last year, with 'the usual board and residence.' Out of the first quarter's wages the boss deducts the passage-money, which to Mackay is £3 10s., and which is refunded to the employé 'after 12 months' servitude'; the employer 'reserves the right to cancel this agreement at any time, upon giving one month's notice to the said 'employé' should he fail to comply with the terms of this agreement . . . the said 'employé' reserving the same right of notice, providing the amount of passage-money advanced to the said 'employé' is earned.' All the words in inverted commas are copied verbatim from the agreement. There are - or, more correctly speaking, there were—three of these unfortunates in the district, two of whom have 'jacked' up after about six month's work. The third is a tall, strapping fellow of over 20 years of age, the son of apparently well-to-do parents; he replaced a man who was driving a butcher's cart for 15s. a week and tucker—I suppose driving a meat-cart comes in under the heading of the duties of a generally-useful station-lad as per agreement. The Q. Government is going to spend large sums of money in getting immigrants to come here; why not send the necessary commission to the person who runs that Sydney agency, which, I am sure, will be able to supply Queensland with all the cheap-labor needed at half-a-guinea per head, a reduction made on large consignments?—A.S.B.G.

OED gives '**Registry Office 1.** = REGISTER OFFICE a., *spec.* a place where a register of positions in domestic employment is kept (*obs. exc. Hist.*).' (1728). This term is not Australian.

Remittance men: *general* these are generally scions of aristocratic or wealthy houses in the United Kingdom or Europe deported to Australia as black-sheep or scapegraces, a fixed sum of money being remitted to them conditional on their remaining away from home. As a rule a dissolute and improvident class, wallowing in debauchery and luxury for a few days after their remittance comes to hand, and eking out a living on credit and by sponging between times. The title is also used by hotel and boarding-house sneaks who put off their creditors by saying 'my remittance has not yet arrived.' Most people are very chary of giving credit to any remittance man. There is no doubt that the genuine remittance gains increased ill-odour from the doings of local spongers who get credit but never have a remittance to settle up with. To the credit of many of the genuine remittance it may be said that when they are in funds they are good marks for their needy confreres and associates.

AND gives '**remittance man.** [Spec. use of *remittance man* an emigrant supported by remittances from home. Used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.: see OED(S *remittance* 2.) A male immigrant to Australia financially supported by his family.' (1854). This term is Australian.

Reward claim: *mining* a first claim on any newly discovered goldfield awarded to the discoverer.

AND gives '**reward claim** *Mining.* A mining claim granted to a miner who discovers payable gold in a new district.' (1894). This term is Australian.

Rig: a proud-cut or faultily cut stallion, perhaps left with one testicle.

OED gives '**rig** *n.* 3. = RIDGEL, RIGGALD. Also *attrib.*, as **rig-horse.**' (c1430). OED gives '**ridgel** Now *dial.* An animal which has been imperfectly castrated (or spayed), or whose genital organs are not properly developed; *esp.* a male animal (ram, bull, or horse) with only one testicle. Also *attrib.*' (1597 [in *Sheffield Gloss.*]). This term is not Australian.

Right of way: a narrow lane or street not of the statutory width. Generally under private control, maintained to give access to private frontages not on a proclaimed or municipally controlled street. By the Municipalities Act, Municipal Councils are not allowed to take over any thoroughfare of less than a stipulated width. A right of way may be used by right or on sufferance only.

[B adds after 'only': Property sometimes sold with right, of way or entry through adjoining property but right of way gives no title to land over which right hold good.]

OED gives '**right of way** 1.a. A legal right, established by usage, of a person or persons to pass & repass through grounds or property belonging to another.' (1768).

This term is not Australian.

Ring: *cattle* when a mob of cattle are restless from any cause and show signs of stampeding or breaking away, the stockmen 'ring' them, i.e. they ride around the mob at regular distances apart and keep turning the cattle in, heading off and driving them back wherever the mob shows signs of stringing out.

Again, in swimming stock across rivers it sometimes happens that the force of the current baffles them and they commence to 'ring' i.e. swim round and round. By this means many are in danger of crushing and drowning. The most difficult phase of a stockman's work is to go in on his horse and with his stockwhip break up the ring and head the cattle ashore.

1. AND gives '**ring** n. ³. [f. RING v.2.] A milling mob of restless cattle.' (1890). AND gives **ring** v. ². **b. trans.** To turn (a mob, esp. of cattle) back on itself; to cause (a mob) to mill.' (1907).

2. AND gives '**ring** v. ². **a. intr.** Of livestock, esp. cattle: to keep moving restlessly round and round in a mass, to mill.' (1868).

Both senses of this term are Australian.

Ringbarking: cutting a notch through the bark and then through the sapwood of a tree to kill it. Where timber prevents the growth of grass and grass is wanted for sheep or cattle, ringbarking is the cheapest and most expeditious method of deforestation. Ringbarking is not a tithe of the cost of felling, and in addition, 'rung' timber will stand for years.

If felled, the timber, unless carted off or burnt, would remain to encumber the ground. Ringbarking is not a too accurate name for the process, because the mere cutting of the bark will not kill the tree: it is imperative that the sap of the tree be severed to accomplish the purpose.

AND gives '**ringbark**, v. **1. trans.** To kill (a tree) by cutting a ring of bark from around the trunk; to prepare (land, scrub, etc.) for clearing in this way.' (1866).

The 1866 citation in AND gives the verbal noun **ringbarking**.

This term is Australian.

Ringer: the ringer in a shearing shed is the champion, the man who shears the largest number of sheep. Throughout Aust. a smart or clever person is often called a ringer. Obviously derived from quoits, in which throwing the quoit over the peg is known as ringing, and it being the best throw, an expert player is a

regular ringer. 'Quoits' is a great stand-by game in the Bush, old horse-shoes, plain or turned and welded often having served as quoits. A common use of the term is to say in a sporting sense to imply superiority that 'he can run rings around him.'

[Newspaper clipping 20.3.1897 attached to A:-

Louis Pulley, a W.Q. 'ringer,' shore 33,825 sheep last season.]

AND gives '**ringer**, *n.*¹ [spec. use of Br. dial. *ringer* anything superlatively good: see EDD *sb.*2.]. 1.a. One who excels (at an activity, etc.).' (1848).

The specific use of the term applied to a shearer was first recorded in 1871.

The term **ringer** in S&O'B's sense is Australian.

The first evidence for the term applied to quoits is 1863.

OED gives '**ringer**¹ 2. Quoits. A quoit so thrown that it encloses the pin aimed at; a throw of this kind.' The first citation in OED is:

1863 *Tyneside Songs* 86 Harle shapes just like this when puttin on a ringer.

The term ringer as used in Australian English was first recorded in 1848, 15 years before the first recorded use for the term in relation to quoits.

The origin given by S&O'B is incorrect.

Ring or rung-in: *Aust Bush* to enter a man or horse in a competition or race under a false name and performances, a method of deluding the handicapper. 'To ring in a grey:' two-up school—to substitute a two-headed penny for a genuine one in spinning. To ring in a card. To ring in a duffer. Ring: to substitute or cheat with false for genuine.

1. AND gives '**ring-in** *v.* a. *trans.* Horse-racing To substitute fraudulently (a horse) for another entered in a race.' (1898).

This sense of the term is Australian.

2. AND gives '**ring-in** *b.* Two-up. To substitute (a double-headed or double-tailed coin) for a genuine coin.' (1898).

This sense of the term is Australian.

3. OED gives '**ring** *v.*² 13. *b. to ring in*, to substitute fraudulently.' (1812).

This sense of the term is not Australian.

Roads-and-Bridges Member: *political* an epithet applied to Members whose sole political aim is to 'milk the Government cow' for the benefit of their constituency. A class of Member who never has anything to say on questions of national or general import, but devotes all his energies to seeing that the public works proposals contain a fair proportion of roads, bridges, courthouses, schools etc. to be erected in his electorate. Owing to the conditions existing in many of the country electorates a roads-and-bridges member can often hold his electorate against statesmen and politicians of great attainments. The local road or bridge or railway and the disbursement of public money resulting in the electorate is of more importance than the national policy or morals. The roads-and-bridges member is often a puppet of a corrupt ministry and can be bought with a 'job' or a 'subsidy.'

The evidence below supports the entry, but no other evidence for **roads and bridges member** has yet been located.

The Official Report of the National Australasian Convention Debates
(second session) Sydney 1897 reads:

'With regard to the argument used by the hon. member, Mr. Leake, as to the members of this Convention being opposed to having **roads and bridges members** in the senate, I would point out that the states house would have nothing to do with votes for roads and bridges with money votes.'

Robbo: an abbreviation of Robinson; the person is father of the word. Robinson, familiarly known as 'Robbo,'—a Sydney dealer, i.e. costermonger, having accumulated money, set up as a dealer's liveryman in '94. Previous to his going into the business the usual rate per day for a dealer's horse and cart was six shillings, but Robbo cut the rates and let out a horse and cart at four shillings per day. These turnouts were called by the opposition liverymen and hirers 'Robbos, four bobs (shillings).' Robbo extended his livery business and let out buggies and hansom cabs at four shillings per day all of which came to be known as 'four-bob robbos' and then by abbreviation to 'robbo.' Generally speaking, the quality of Robbo's turnouts was of only a fair order. The term spread, and any horse and trap was called by street boys a robbo. In fact, some youths were fined for shouting 'Robbo' to a prominent citizen who was driving in a one hundred guinea turnout. The cry was extended by a music-hall artist singing a song called 'What O, Robbo,' or 'The Josser Jockey.' Additional meaning was also given to the phrase by Robbo advertising to buy any horse dead or alive; in fact he would buy any old crock if only for his hoofs, bones, and hide. By transference and partly by similarity of spelling the word Robbo has come to be applied to anything inferior, or a take-down or swindle.

Robbo Park is an abbreviation of Roseberry Park via Robbery Park, a pony-race track of the second class near Sydney. No doubt a punning allusion to the quality of the sport and the horses which competed.

Any hired turnout is in Sydney slang a robbo.

AND gives '**robbo**. Obs. 'Orig. in the derisive call **four-bob-robbo**.' '(2) Used *transf.* of something in a deteriorated or unsatisfactory condition, esp. a (horse and) light conveyance.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Roll-up: *old diggings term* a call to the diggers to assemble for discussion or to decide some public matter was a roll-up. Lambing Flat roll-up and the Eureka Stockade (Ballarat) roll-up, both semi-insurrections, are instances. Under diggings law, in the absence of legal officials a roll-up would be called to try a thief—a rather more civilized phase of lynch law.

The annual gathering of shearers and rouseabouts at stations at shearing time is also known as a roll-up. The last year's roll is called and any of the men present get first preference, then missing hands or extras are picked from the remainder. Colloquially used—a good roll-up to a meeting, demonstration or other gathering means a good attendance.

1. *AND* gives **roll up** '1. *Hist.* A mass meeting of gold-miners called to consider an individual grievance or an issue of common concern; a summons to attend such a meeting.' (1861).

The mining sense of the term **roll up** is Australian.

2. The only evidence for roll up as a shearing term is in:

R. Boldrewood's *Shearing In The Riverina, New South Wales* 1871.

'But on the second morning after breakfast, when the bell sounded, instead of the usual cheerful dash at the sheep, every man stood silent and motionless in his place. Someone uttered the words "**roll up!**" Then the seventy men converged, and slowly, but with one impulse, walked up to the end of the shed where stood Mr Gordon.'

There is no other evidence for **roll up** in the shearing sense.

3. *AND* gives '**roll up** 2. *transf.* An assembly.' (1889).

The colloquial sense of the term **roll up** is Australian.

Rope: Morris.

[**Morris: Rope** *v. tr.* to catch a horse or bullock with a noosed rope. It comes from the Western United States, where it has superseded the original Spanish word *lasso*, still used in California.]

AND gives **rope**, *v.* 'To catch (an animal) with a noosed rope; to lasso.' (1827).

This term is Australian.

Ropeable: Morris.

[**Morris: Ropeable**, *adj.* (1) Of cattle; so wild and intractable as to be capable of subjection only by being roped. See preceding word. [rope]
(2) By transference: intractable, angry, out of temper.]

1. There is no evidence for the first sense of the term pertaining to cattle. It seems likely this sense existed, and gave rise to the second sense.

2. *AND* gives **ropeable**. 'Requiring to be restrained; angry; bad-tempered.' (1874.)

This sense is Australian.

Roping pole: Morris.

[**Morris: Roping-pole**, *n.* a long pole used for casting a rope over an animal's head in the stock-yard.]

AND 'roping 2. Special comb. **roping pole, stick**, a long pole used to drop a noosed rope over the head of an animal.' (1890).
This term is Australian.

Rot: a collective funk or failure of a team *Aust. cricket* 'A rot set in; the players' wickets fell rapidly.'

OED gives '**rot** *n.*¹ 6. *Cricket* A rapid break-down or fall of wickets during an innings.' The first citation is in *Lillywhite's Cricketers' Companion*. (1868).
This term is not Australian.

Rotten: good: 'Not too rotten.'

There is no other evidence for the term.

Rotter: an expert or adept at any study.

There is no other evidence for the term.

(The term **rotter** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945, but not in his later publications. In Baker 1945 p.297 he intimates 'that this term is a literary invention.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1943. He adds 'Ironically ex sense 1.' [this is a US sense.]

Green gives [1930s+] (Aust).

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B)

Round: 'getting round' is equivalent to being even on any business or speculation. *Transfer to R*

[The note at the end of the entry is present because this entry is in the text after the entry for **Betting round and over**.]

Hotten (1865) gives '**round** "ROUND dealing" honest trading.'

OED. gives '**get**, *v.* 47. **get round**. (Cf. 75.) **a.** To circumvent, get the better of, cajole.' (1849).

There is no evidence for S&O'B's sense, of being even on a business deal or speculation.

Round up: *droving and station* to muster or gather up stock, to drive a straggler back to a mob. A picture in Sydney Art Gallery represents a stockman 'Rounding up a Straggler.'

Thieves and slang to inform on, to turn around on any one. Also to accuse, threaten, abuse, or lecture anyone.

1. *AND* gives **round**, v. 'To gather (scattered livestock) together by riding round a paddock, etc., to muster. Freq. with **up**.' (1847).

This sense of the term is Australian.

2. OED gives '**round** v.¹. **5.round up** b. To rebuke or reprove (a person). *Obs.*' (1678).

The 'thieves' sense of the term is not Australian. This sense may have been included to suggest an origin for the Australian sense.

Rouse: *slang* to storm, swear, and abuse or vilify. 'I roused on him'—vernacular—'I got on to him' or 'gave him a blowing up.' Gangsters and bosses rouse their men, that is, bully or jolly them into greater exertions. Obvious corruption—rousing anyone up, to stir or wake them up.

AND gives '**rouse** v.¹ [F. Scot. dial. *roust* to roar, to bellow: see EDD *roust*, v.² and OED(S) *roust*, v.¹ and v.³] *intr.* To scold. Freq. with **at**, **on**: to berate (someone).' (1896).

This term is Australian.

S&O'B's origin is incorrect as the term comes from the Scots dialect.

Rouseabout: *bush* the general labourer of shearing sheds and stations: separate and distinct from boundary riders and ordinary station hands: more particularly applied to the men who yard and pen the sheep, pick up the wool, etc. at shearing time.

[Newspaper clipping 20.2.1897 attached to A:-

*The rouser has no soul to lose – it's blarst the rouseabout!
And rip 'em through and yell for 'tar' and get the bell-sheep out.
And take it with the scum at times or take it with the roots,
But 'pink' 'em nice and pretty when you see the Boss's boots.*

HENRY LAWSON.

'Rouseabout' and 'picker-up' are interchangeable terms in above rhymes, as also 'boss' and 'super'; shed-name for latter is 'Boss-over-the-board.' The shearers are paid by the hundred, the rouser by the week. 'Pink 'em pretty': to shear clean to the skin. 'Bell-sheep': shearers are not supposed to take another sheep out of pen when the 'Smoke-ho' breakfast or dinner bell goes, but some time themselves to get so many sheep out, and *one as the bell goes*, which makes more work for the rouser and entrenches on his 'smoke-ho,' as he must leave his 'board' clean. Shearers are seldom or never fined now.

AND gives **rouseabout** 'a. A general hand on a rural property, esp. in a shearing shed.' (1861).
This term is Australian.

Rowdies: larrikins, roughs, boisterous youths or men.

[This entry is not in B]

OED gives '**rowdy**, *n.*¹ and *a.* **A.** *n.*¹ Originally, a backwoodsman of a rough and lawless type; hence, a rough, disorderly person; one addicted to quarrelling, fighting, or disturbing the peace: **a.** In American use, or with ref. to America.' (1808).

This term is not Australian.

Rowdy: rough, intractable, unbroken: applied to colts and fillies.

[This entry is not in A or B]

AND gives '**rowdy**, *a.* [Transf. use of *rowdy* rough and disorderly.] Of animals: resistant of control.' (1872).

This term is Australian.

Rung: a variant of ring, as rung timber, rung country – country in which the timber has been ringbarked.

AND gives '**rung**, *ppl. a.* [f. *RING* *v.*¹] Of a tree: ring-barked. Of an area: having ringbarked trees still standing.' (1872).

This term is Australian.

Rush: Morris.

[**Morris: Rush**, *v.* (1) Of cattle: to charge a man. Contraction for to *rush-at*.

(2) To attack sheep; i.e. to cause them to *rush about* or *away*.

(3) To break through a barrier (of men or materials). Contraction for to *rush past* or *through*; e.g. to rush a cordon of policemen; to rush a fence (i.e. to break-down or climb-over it).

(4) To take possession of, or seize upon, either by force or before the appointed time.]

1. *AND* gives '**rush**, *n.* **3.** A stampede, esp. of cattle.' (1881).

2. *AND* gives '**rush**, *v.* **1.** *trans.* To cause (cattle, etc.) to stampede.' (1834).

3. *AND* gives '**rush** *v.* **3.** **a.** 'To occupy by a rush (esp. of gold-miners).' (1852).

4. *AND* gives **rush** v. 2. 'To assail (a person, etc.) by means of a sudden rush.' (1840).

All senses of the term are Australian.

S

Salting a mine: to fraudulently put gold or other metals into a lead, reef, or mill for the purpose of deceiving intending buyers or investors. Mount Huxley. Mining reports.

[There is a newspaper clipping dated 16.2.1897 attached to A:-
One of the mining guns of Kalgoorlie has been instructed to hand over control to an imported manager. Also a special audit of the books of a big oo, engineered by a very pious crowd, has been ordered. Likewise there is a suspected mixedness in the accounts of two Boll oos, while two leading men are leaving for London, recalled to explain the taking over of large 'salt-bush' mines.]

['bush' is underlined and a question mark at the end of the clipping, both added by hand. The citation does not appear to support the entry.]

OED gives '**salt** v.¹ 9. *Mining slang*. To make (a mine) appear to be a paying one by fraudulently introducing rich ore, etc., into it, sprinkling gold dust in it, etc. Also *transf.* and *fig.*' (1852) This citation is from *Pioneer* (San Francisco). This term is not Australian.

Sandy: *slang* generic name for Scotchmen as Paddy is for Irishmen. Perhaps an abbreviation of Alexander and an allusion to redness or sandiness of hair and beard.

OED gives '**Sandy** n. A shortened form of the name Alexander, chiefly used in Scotland. Hence used as a nickname for a Scotchman. Cf. SAWNEY.' (1473).

SDD gives '**Sandy** n. 1. a nickname for a Scotsman.'
This term is not Australian.

Sawn-stuff: cross refer.

See **split-stuff**

Scab: equivalent to the English 'blackleg' as applied to non-union workmen. *Bush slang* perhaps from the disease of scab in sheep, or to a strike-leader alluding to the non-union men as 'scabs on the face of society,' which I have heard several do.

OED gives '**scab** n. 4.b. A workman who refuses to join an organized movement on behalf of his trade; in extended uses: a person who refuses to

join a strike or who takes over the work of a striker; a blackleg; a strike-breaker. orig. U.S.' (1777).

AND gives '**scabby**, a. Non-union.' (1892).

AND gives '**scabbery** The betrayal of ones fellow workers; scab workers collectively.' (1918).

The term **scab** is not Australian. The extended forms, **scabbery** and **scabby**, are Australian.

Scale: *thieves and sporting* to defraud, to obtain goods by trick, to evade payment: a variant of balance, which see.

AND gives '**scale** v. 1. *intr.* To avoid paying what is due; *spec.* to avoid paying one's fare. Also *trans.* to defraud (a person); to ride (a tram, truck, etc.) without paying; to take a ride in this way.' (1904).

This term is Australian.

Schlenter: crooked, faked: in Australia first applied to pugilistic encounters in which the winning and losing was prearranged. Now applied to any competition or contest which is a swindle or not bona-fide.

[Newspaper clipping 13.3.1897 attached to A:-

Two members of Melb. Stock Ex. Fined for taking allegedly 'schleinter' sales.]

AND gives **schlenter** as a variation of **slanter**, perhaps through S. African English. '**A.** n. A trick; a fraudulent stratagem.' (1864). '**B.** adj. Dishonest; crooked.' (1889).

The first citation in the *Dictionary of South African English* is 1891.

Borrowing from South Africa seems unlikely, as the first Australian citation is twenty-seven years earlier than the first South African citation.

How the term appeared in Australia is therefore very uncertain, there is a Scots dialect term which may be the source if indeed it was 'first applied to pugilistic encounters.'

SDD gives '**scilent** v. 4. to hit or throw obliquely. 5. to be guilty of immoral conduct.'

The term was obviously known to S&O'B as they did not spell the headword as it appeared in the newspaper clipping.

This term is Australian.

Scrap, scrapping: *common* fighting, rioting. An Australian paper suggests that a noted pugilist should call his reminiscences My 'Scrap' Book.

OED gives '**scrap** n.². 2. a. A struggle, scrimmage, tussle; a boxing-match. Also *gen.*, a contest.' (1846).

This is not an Australian term.

Screw: *Aust, thieves* to watch, to look at or notice. 'Screw the umpcha on the left chalk,' – look at the chump on your left hand. Screw is also *thieves' slang* for prison warders.

1. *AND* gives '**screw** v. 2. [As for Screw n. 2] *intr.* To look. Also *trans.*' (1917). *OED* gives '**screw** v. 15. a. *trans.* To look at, watch (a person); *spec.*, to eye (a person) before a fight. b. *intr.* To look. *slang* (orig. *Austral.*).' (1919).

The sense given by S&O'B is not Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**screw** n. 1 10 b. A prison warder, a turnkey.' (1812).

The 'thieves slang' sense of the term **screw** is not Australian.

This sense of the term is not Australian.

There are two separate entries in the texts for **screw**.

Screw: *slang* an old or poor looking horse. An old screw, a crock.
Slang a mean or avaricious man.
Slang wages or salary.

1. *OED* gives '**screw** n. 1. III 19. A horse not perfectly sound; also *transf.*, a cow not perfectly healthy. Perh. originally a race-horse that can be made to obtain a place by 'screwing' on the part of the jockey.' (1821). (the Australian equivalent is scrubber).

2. *OED* gives '**screw** n. 1. III 16. One who forces down (prices) by haggling; a stingy, miserly person.' (1835).

3. *OED* gives '**screw** n. 1. III 20. *slang.* Salary, wages.' (1858).

All senses of the term are not Australian.

Scrub: a very wide term embracing all the variations between forest and herbage. Ti- or tea-tree scrub, mulga scrub, mallee scrub, pine scrub, etc. down to many colonial plants that are not much more than shrubs. You could drive a coach-and-four through some scrub; in other scrub it is impossible to advance on foot without clearing the way with an axe.

Scrub has no connection with shrub, as the pine scrubs are tracts of young pine trees (suckers.) There are also the cedar scrubs of the northerly districts, but these, owing to undergrowth and creepers, are more like jungles.

'Scrubby country' seems more to mean country not open enough for either grazing or cultivation, and in many cases not rich enough for cultivation when cleared unless irrigated.

Compare with Morris: his quotes all right.

AND gives '**scrub**, n. [Used elsewhere but chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*: see *OED(S sb. 1)* 1. A name given to any of a wide range of generally low and

apparently stunted forms of vegetation, often thick impenetrable, and freq. growing in poor soil; a constituent of such vegetation; its wood.' (1805).
This term is chiefly Australian.

Scrub dangler, scrub cutter: Morris.

[Morris: **Scrub-dangler**, *n.* a wild bullock.]

Morris does not give **scrub cutter**.

AND gives '**scrub** *n.* 6. Special Comb. **scrub cutter** one employed to cut scrub, either to clear land or to provide fodder.' (1845).

It appears S&O'B are correct about the term **scrub cutter**, but without definition it is difficult to comment.

Scrub dangler as used by Morris was assessed to be obsolete by Ramson (1966 p.19n). He quotes:

'a *Bulletin* reviewer 23 April 1898 notes ... *scrubdangler* as obsolescent ... used only in parts of Victoria.'

There is evidence for the use of **scrub-dangler**.

The term was obsolescent before the material was compiled.

(The term **scrub dangler** is in Baker 1941, 1942, 1945 and 1959 editions. EP 1967 does not cite Baker. He gives 1885-1920.)

Scrubber: *slang* a cad, a nobody, a person of mean, despicable or ill-favoured parts.

AND gives **scrubber b.** 'A 'wild' person, one only partially assimilated into a society; a person of rough and unkempt appearance.' (1858).

This is an Australian term.

Although the AND definition differs from S&O'B's definition, some of the citations in AND support S&O'B's sense. For example:

1880 'J.B. STEVENSON *Seven Yrs. Austral. Bush* 140 A gruff remark from the ostler that 'He's none of yer loafing scrubbers, but knows how to treat the ladies'.

1911 '*Truth* (Sydney) 22 Oct. 1/6 The Sydney charwomen are all right, the real scrubbers are to be found among Sydney chairmen.'

Seen better days: *humorous* a common expression used to denote anyone who has been wealthy or is connected with people of good birth or position. Nearly every cadger and boozier in Australia plays on this phrase either directly or by insinuation. The remittance-man is a close relation.

OED gives '**see** v.10. a. Sometimes with mixture of sense 11, as in *to have seen better days*, to have been formerly better off or (of a thing) in better condition than now.' (1806).

This term is not Australian.

Settler's matches, settler's clock: *obs.* Morris.

[**Morris: Settlers' Matches**, *n.* name occasionally applied to the long pendulous strips of bark which hang from the Eucalypts and other trees, during decortication, and which, becoming exceedingly dry, are readily ignited and used as kindling wood. **Settler's Clock** (also **Hawkesbury Clock**), *n.* another name for the bird called the Laughing-Jackass.]

AND gives '**settler** 3.b. In special collocations: **clock**, the kookaburra.' (1827 to 1943), '**matches**, strips of bark useful as kindling.' (1891 to 1955).

AND's citations indicate that these terms were not obsolete when Morris compiled his dictionary, or in 1910 when S&O'B included the terms.

S&O'B were incorrect to label the terms obsolete.

These are Australian terms.

Seymour, or See-more: applied to short or skimpy coats.

'You can see more posterior than coat.' A pun on Chesterfield and Paget as names of coats.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Shake: *slang* to take, to steal; in common use.

Morris gives as originally thieves' English, but quotes no authority.

Slang to throw or shake dice for drinks or the difference in dispute in a bargain. A common bush practice for a number of men to put in double money and shake: the winner 'shouts' and keeps the other half. A mean man's way of 'shouting' is to invite a person to have a shake, that is, to throw dice and the loser shouts.

In the majority of Australian hotels a box and dice are always at hand and customers can shake to decide anything. 'I'll shake you for it' is a common way of settling any disputed minor claim or bargain.

1. AND gives '**shake** v.1 [Survival of Br. slang *shake* to steal; see OED v. 16 b.] *trans.* To steal (something); to rob (someone).' (1812).

2. OED gives '**shake** v. 15. b. To cast (dice) usually with a preliminary shake; hence to gamble *away* (an estate); also with personal object, to 'throw' against (a person) *for whatever is staked*.' (1570).

The second sense 'to throw or shake dice for drinks' is not Australian.

Shanghai: boy's catapult. Writer, a Sydney native, first heard the word used in Wagga in '80 or '81. Seems like a corruption of shy high, i.e. throw high.

AND gives '**shanghai** [Prob. altered form of *shangie*, var. of Scot dial. *shangan* a stick cleft at one end: see OED.] A catapult.' (1863).
S&O'B's origin is incorrect. There is no connection to 'shy high'.
This term is Australian.

Shanks's mare: a humorous manner of describing travelling on foot. Others: the pony pa gave me – on foot-back.

1. OED gives '**shank** *n.* **b.** *Shanks'* (or *Shanks's*) *mare*, *pony*, etc.: one's own legs as a means of conveyance.' (1774).
 2. OED gives '**footback** *obs.* A humorous formation after *horseback*. Chiefly in phr. **on** (or **a**) **footback** = (travelling) on foot.' (1589 to 1630).
- This term is not Australian.

Shanty: *Aust* public-house or inn. More properly a sly-grog shop or illicit house where drink is sold. In the country parts, out of the regular beats of the police, shanties abound. A grocer or storekeeper or boarding-house may have an additional means of business in shanty-keeping.

AND gives '**shanty** [Spec. use of *shanty* small, mean dwelling; see OED(S sb.¹)] **a.** A small public house, usu. in a rural area and freq. unlicensed.' (1863).

OED gives '**shanty** *n.* ¹ **1. a.** Chiefly *U.S.* and *Canada*. A small, mean, roughly constructed dwelling; a cabin, a hut.' (1820).

The term **shanty** in the sense of a public house only is Australian.

Shed: generally a mere roof on posts, other times only partly enclosed, as in a hayshed. Particularly in bush, shed is used as an abbreviation of woolshed, the barn or building in which the sheep are shorn and the wool baled and pressed.

OED gives '**shed**, *n.* ² **1. a.** A slight structure built for shelter or storage, or for use as a workshop, either attached as a lean-to to a permanent building or separate; often with open front or sides. The special purpose is indicated by a defining word prefixed, as *cow-*, *cart-*, *goat-*, *tool-shed*.' (1481).

This sense is not Australian.

AND gives **shed** '**1. a.** *Shearing shed*.' (1853).

This sense is Australian.

Sheepwash: *Aust bush* concocted liquor, inferior liquor. Shanty keepers and out-back public-house keepers, more solicitous of profit than their customers' health, are often accused of putting salt, salt beef, tobacco, bluestone, etc. in their grog: cases of detection of tobacco-dosing have been detected. All these, with exception of beef, are common ingredients of sheepwash used to clean sheep and free them of parasites.

Look up 'hard tack' and 'soft stuff' for quote.

1. *AND* gives '**sheep 2. sheep-wash** *obs.*, adulterated or inferior alcoholic liquor.' (1891 and 1945). The 1945 citation is from Baker.

As 'concocted liquor' the only evidence is the two citations in *AND* and this S&O'B entry. There are five citations for the term **sheepwash tobacco** in *AND* from 1860 to 1918.

(The term **sheepwash** 'Bad liquor' is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1941, 1942.

Green gives 20c Aus/NZ.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Sheet short, a: bush slang equivalent to a shingle short: a metaphor founded upon the custom of roofing huts with sheets of bark.

AND gives '**shingle 2. fig to be a shingle short**' (1844).

Wilkes has the entry **shingle short** with citations from 1852 to 1966. He has the term **short of a sheet of bark** with one citation in 1885.

See **shingle short**.

There is no evidence outside this material for **a sheet short**, but it is probably a shortened form of **short of a sheet of bark**.

(Baker 1941, 1943, 1945 and 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

She-oak: *bush slang* nickname for colonial beer.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

Red Page of *Bulletin* 17.7.1897 9. Sheoak.

Why is 'colonial beer' called sheoak? Was the berry ever made into beer? or the bark? or the wood? or foliage? It was Polly Lawson, of Ballarat, shanty-keeper and lady, who first introduced name and poison to – SCOTTY SHEDRINKLER. 'M.C.' (13/6/97) tells how bush lads chew sheoak nuts 'because they are sour'. This paper chewed some by way of experiment – many palates would find them bitter. Also, they moisten the mouth at first and dry it afterwards. Analogical application to 'colonial ale' might easily be made as the bush lads grow up.

She Oak (4.9.97)

The term she oak as applied in Australia to 'colonial beer' dates back to 1820. About that time a brewery was established on what was then known as She Oak

Hill, opposite old Government House, Hobart. The owner, when asked how he made such good beer, replied, 'I put the she oak in it.' At the time the interprovincial trade of Australia was confined to 'Port Jackson' (Sydney), 'Port Dalrymple' (Launceston) and 'The Derwent' (Hobart) – so the term became general. – M.D.]

AND gives '**she-oak** 2. *transf.* Beer brewed in Australia.' (1848 to 1948). The last citation in AND is from *Canoe in Australia* by Raven-Hart, who appears to have used Baker for his colloquialisms. The last citation before this is 1914. It seems this term became obsolete about the time this material was compiled.
This sense is Australian.

Shepherding: *mining* holding land of supposed mineral value by just complying with the regulations: not working it, but holding it for a rise or further developments.
See Morris's quotes.

AND gives '**shepherd**, v. [*Transf.* use of *shepherd* to tend.] 1. *trans.* Obs. To effect token occupation of (a gold-mining claim) in order to comply with the regulations governing possession: see quot. 1869. Freq. as *vbl. n.*' (1852).
This term is Australian.

Shicer: 1. & 2. Morris.

Also synonymous with 'twicer' *slang*, a two-faced or unreliable person, a sneak or informer, or one who goes back on his promises.

[**Morris: Shicer**, *n.* (1) An unproductive *claim* or mine: a *duffer*. From the German *scheissen*.

(2) Slang. By transference from (1). A man who does not pay his debts of honour.]

1. AND gives **shicer** 'An unproductive claim, mine, or goldfield.' (1853).

This sense of the term **shicer** is Australian.

2. OED gives '**shicer** 1. *slang*. A worthless person. Also *Austral.* (?*transf.* from 2) a welsher, defaulter. Also, something worthless, a failure.' (1846).

The second sense of the term **shicer** is not originally Australian.

The term survived longer in Australia than Britain.

Shikered: drunk.

AND gives '**shickered** *ppl. a.* Also **shikkered**. Drunk.' (1898).
This term is Australian.

Shingle off the roof: *slang* a person who refuses a drink in a public-house is said to take a shingle off the roof.

(Very good, this): Street women who do business in by-ways, alleys, or parks are called by the assignation-house and brothel-keepers, shinglers.

There is no other evidence for the phrase **shingle off the roof** or the term **shinglers**.

Shingle short: mad, silly, a fool.

AND gives '**shingle** 2. *fig.* A mental faculty, esp. in the phr. **to be a shingle short** and *varr.*' (1844).

OED gives '**shingle**, *n.*¹ **b.** *fig. phr.* (orig. Australian colloq.). **a shingle short:** 'a tile loose': said of one who is mentally deficient.' (1852).

This term is Australian.

Shirt out: to get one's shirt out is to get angry.

A shirt on the diggings (common, in fact) was a rag: a boiled rag – a white shirt: see 'boiled rag.'

To get your rag out seems like the parent of shirt out.

B&L give: *Rag* English provincial – to abuse, slander.

OED gives '**shirt** *n.* **f.** *slang.* **to get** (a person's) **shirt out**, to cause him to lose his temper. **to keep one's shirt on:** to remain calm (orig. *U.S.*).' (1854).

OED gives '**Rag** *n.*¹ **3c** **to lose one's rag:** to lose one's temper.' (1914).

See also **Boiled Rag**

The terms **shirt out** and **boiled rag** are not Australian.

Shoot: *bush* dismissal, the sack, the wallop, the bag, the spear, the bullet, etc. etc. Shoot is no doubt derived from the shoot in a shearing shed down which a sheep is passed out when shorn.

[Newspaper clipping 3.4.1897 attached to A:-

QUIBBLE came a cropper, for a wonder, in the Vic. Supreme Court lately, in his first serious tilt against the Factories Act. That *bete noir* of the sweater and the huckster curmudgeon and the early morning Chow provides that every shopkeeper shall *permit* his assistants to take a half-holiday each week. 'But,' said Quibble, 'permission implies asking for permission.' 'And asking,' replied Common Sense, 'spells 'the shoot.']

OED gives '**shoot** *n.*¹ **3. f.** In slang phr. **to give** (a person) **the shoot:** to dismiss from employment, sack; also *transf.* So **to get the shoot.**' (1846).

AND gives '**shoot** to dismiss (someone) from employment.' (1892). (verb only).

There is no evidence to connect the origin of the verb **shoot** to the chute in a shearing shed.

The term **shoot** as a noun is not Australian.

Shooting oysters in a cab: when a man who has been away on a debauch or spree says he has been away fishing, shooting or hunting, a sarcastic comment is: 'Yes, shooting oysters in a cab.'

There is no other evidence for this phrase.

Shout: to treat drinks. No doubt a variant of 'give it a name,' an invitation to a friend to have a drink: 'I'll shout, you give it a name.'
Can copy sladen wallop on the subject if pad is required.

It is difficult to know what is meant by the last line in this entry. Perhaps the reference is to the poet Douglas Sladen.

AND gives '**shout**, v. [Transf. use of *shout* to call (for drinks).] 1. a. *intr.* To pay for a round of drinks, esp. one given freely to an assembled company.' (1850).

This term is Australian.

Show: *mining* a claim or lead of gold is called a show, i.e. gold showing – 'A good show of gold in the stopes.'

OED gives '**show**, n.¹ c. (a) *U.S. and Austral.* An indication of the presence of metal in a mining ground, of oil in a well, etc.' (1600).

This term is not Australian.

Shunt, doing a shunt: *sporting slang* to start a horse with no intention of winning, with the idea of inducing the handicapper to reduce his weight as if he were a bona-fide loser.

Thieves' slang to run away or to make oneself scarce.

Shunt – a railway term for 'kicking' trucks about on sidings.

[B adds after sidings : 2. Get the shunt – to get dismissed – sacked.]

1. There is no other evidence for the sporting sense of the term.

2. *OED* gives '**shunt** v. 1. a. *intr.* To start or go aside (so as to avoid some person or thing); to shy; to shrink or steal away; to hang back. *Obs.*' (1225 to 15..).

3. *OED* gives '**shunt** v. 4. a. To move (a train or some portion of it) from the main line to a side-track or from one line of rails to another; also to move back.' (1845).

4. (In B. only) There is no evidence for this sense of **shunt**.
This term is not Australian in any sense.

Shypoo: *W.A. slang* for colonial beer. In Perth there are hotels (beer houses) which are known as Shypoo Joints.

Originally an epithet for home-made beer which many of the Perth beer-houses retailed, inferior brewery-made beer. Now applied in West Australia to all beer, and extending in use to other Colonies.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

9.2.? THE EFFICACY OF PRAYER

This is the picture of a hop-beer vendor (locally known [as] 'shypoo') at Cue W.A., who recently made a large stock [] in the expectation that the weather was going to be

[The rest of the clipping is unreadable.]

25.9.1897

[Paddy Grady's 'Hessian Palace' was a scene of
wild delight,

And we drank the shypoo deeply, till the lateness
of the night

Suggested a retirement; but O'Doolan swore a
round

Should be drunk in grateful honor of the latest
patch we'd found;

And he paid for the shypoo

With a crispy note and new,

He had earned by tossing pennies with a stranger
on the U.]

AND gives '**shypoo** *A. n.* 1. Inferior alcoholic liquor, esp. beer.' (1897).

AND's citation quotes the third last line inaccurately 'with crispy notes and new' The citations in *AND* are from NSW, not WA. This suggests the term was not restricted to WA.

This term is Australian.

Sign your hand, or name: take a seat and join in a meal: help yourself. 'Sign your name here,' seafaring men and shearers are in these words requested to append their signatures to agreements.

1. There is no other evidence for the sense of joining in a meal.

2. *OED* gives '**sign**, *v.*¹ 4. a. To attest or confirm by adding one's signature; to affix one's name to (a document, etc.).' (1477).

It seems obvious that this phrase must have been used, but the phrase is not Australian in either sense.

(The term '**sign one's hand (name)**: To have a meal' is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but not after 1945.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.
Baker and EP both give 'compare 'Bite your name'.
It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Silvertail: *Aust* an aristocrat or member of the 'upper circles.' Perhaps in the manner of much Horsetralian slang, founded on the rarity of horses with silver manes and tails. The writer has only seen one thoroughbred racing which possessed a true 'silver' mane and tail.

[Newspaper clipping 15.1.1898 attached to A:-
Jackeroo or *Silvertail*: A 'haw-haw' person pitchforked into an officer's billet. Occasionally turns out a white man, but not often.]

AND gives '**silvertail**, *a.* and *n.* [Prob. Orig. with reference to the wearing of dress uniforms.] **B. n.** One who is socially prominent or who displays social aspirations; a privileged person.' (1887).

This term is Australian.

The origin suggested by S&O'B seems unlikely. 'The writer' appears to question this origin also.

Sit up: *sporting* when a jockey starts to flog and spur he relaxes his erect attitude in the stirrups and sits down to flog, or as the equivalent goes, 'he gets down on him.' 'Anyone observing a jockey who stops persevering and relaxes his efforts to ride his horse out either through rascality or judging his mount has no chance will observe that he, as it were, sits up on his horse.
To make a person sit up is to give them a beating or punishment, either verbally or physically.

1. There is no other evidence for the term **sit up** in the sporting sense.
2. OED gives '**sit v. 27 f. to make (one) sit up** to astonish, startle, have a powerful effect on one.' (1886).
OED does not include the sense of giving punishment.
This term is not Australian in either sense.

Six Families: *West Australian* quote explains. These are the leading families of West Australia, the aristocracy, so to speak.

[Newspaper clipping (undated) attached to A:-
Eastern newspapers, when commenting on things Westralian, often refer to the 'Six Families.' Properly speaking there are seven - viz., Lee Steere, Parker, Hammersly, Burgess, Hassell, Leake and Burt.]

There is no other evidence for this term.

Six-pound-a-weekers: *political journalese* an epithet applied to members of the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly by reason of the amount of their salary. Mostly used by the Tory class or Conservative section as a taunt at the honour of the Labour members.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Skew-whiff: crooked, twisted, topsy-turvey. Skew is apparently an abbreviation of askew, and the whiff an accidental addition.

OED gives '**skew-whiff**, *a.* and *adv.* Askew, awry (*lit.* and *fig.*).' (1754). This term is not Australian.

Skibo: a nickname for house-painters: mostly used in an unmeaning cry, 'Skibo, twig the bear.'

EDD gives '**skib-bo** A painter; a white washer. This term is from Warwickshire.'

There is no other evidence for the use of this term in Australia.

Skillion: a lean-to roof built against an existing wall or building. Also applied to sloped roofs to distinguish from hip roofs.

[Newspaper clipping (undated) attached to A:-
Some derivations: 'Skillion,' Australian term for a lean-to added to a building: from 'scalence' obtuse-angled (mathematical term). Vide Collins' 'Account of New South Wales,' vol. II., p.312 - 'Enlarged by a scalene building running the whole length, the dwellings of the principal surgeons,' &c.]

AND gives '**skillion** alteration of **skilling**.' (1808).

EDD gives '**skeeling**—wide spread in England. Skaaling, skeling, skelling, skiling, skillen, skilling, skillion (Aust.), skillun, skiln.'

1. *OED* gives '**skillion** *Austral.* and *N.Z.* 1. A lean-to, serving as a shed or as a small room.' (1843).

2. *OED* gives '**skillion** *Austral.* and *N.Z.* 3. Special Comb. **skillion roof**, a roof sloping from the side of a building; hence **skillion-roofed** *a.*' (1911).

This term is Australian.

Skirting: Morris.

[**Morris: Skirting**, *n.* generally used in the plural. In sheep-shearing, the inferior parts of the wool taken from the extremities.]

In addition: one part of a wool-sorter's duties is to remove the skirtings from the fleece.

AND gives '**skirting**, *vbl. n. Shearing*. [f. SKIRT.] 1. *pl.* The trimmings or inferior parts of a fleece.' (1881).

This term is Australian.

Skite: to talk rot, to boast or blow. A skiter is a bragging boasting or pedantic self-sufficient talker.

AND gives **skite** *v.* 'To boast; brag.' (1857).

This term is Australian.

Skite: B&L give: *Skyte* – Scottish schoolboy for fool.

Aust. blow, braggadocio, tall talking or boasting.

AND gives **skite** *n.* '1. A boast; boasting; ostentation.' (1860).

AND gives **skite** *n.* '2. A braggart, a boaster; a conceited person.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Skull-banker, skow-banker: obs. Morris.

[Morris: **Skullbanker**, or **Scowbanker**, *n.* a slang name in Australia for a loafer, a tramp.]

OED gives '**Scowbanker** *slang* (? and *dial.*) A loafer (see *quots.*). Also, one who engages in unfair business practices, a dishonest or unscrupulous trader.' (1750).

The citations suggest this term was a sailor's term, perhaps from Lancashire, but was also current in Australia from an early date.

This term is not Australian.

Slab: *Aust* a tall spare person, a tall slab of a fellow. Slabs, i.e. rough split or sawn planks used for mining, building, etc. A slab for wall of a house would be seven or eight feet in length and as wide as the timber would allow.

[Newspaper clipping 29.1.1889 attached to A:-

'Dunno!'

'Member Jim? Long, lanky slab,
seemed he had no tongue for gab,
Shed all clucking, he'd lie low;
Ask him, *he'd* say, 'Oh! dunno!']

1. *OED* gives '**slab-sided**, a Orig. US. Having sides like slabs; flat-sided; long and lank.' (1817).

2. *OED* gives '**slab** *n.*¹ 1. a. A flat, broad, and comparatively thick piece or mass of anything solid. In early use of metal, later also of stone and wood, and finally of any substance capable of having this form.' (1290).

This term is not Australian.

(The term **slab** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but not after 1945. It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

[**Slanter**: see Schlenter]

Slate: account of money owing for drinks etc. Habit of publicans chalking up on a slate the drinks served to customers on credit. A clean slate, equivalent to turning over a new leaf: 'There, I'll wipe off the slate and you can start fresh.'

OED gives '**slate**, *n.*¹ 2. d. A written record of a debt made when purchase of goods is allowed on credit. Also *fig.*, esp. in phr. **on the slate**, on account. (See also quot. 1909.)' (1909.)

1909 J. R. WARE *Passing Eng.* 188/1 On the slate (Lower Peoples'), written up against you from the credit-slate kept in chandlers' shops.

This term is not Australian.

Slip-rail, slip-panel: synonymous: a bush method of making a gateway: one panel of the fence has the rails and mortises arranged so that the rails slip in and out.

AND gives '**slip-rail** a. A fence-rail, forming one of a set which can be slipped out so as to leave an opening; the opening so formed.' (1827).

AND gives '**slip-panel** SLIP RAIL a.' (1844).

Both senses of this term are Australian.

Slither: to clear out or escape. A well-known politician of underground engineering abilities who is supposed to be hard to pin down is nicknamed Tom Slithery.

OED points out that **slithery** is used in various senses of **slippery** from 1340. There is not enough evidence for this term outside this material to say that the term existed.

(The term **slither** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not after 1943.)

EP 1967 gives '**slither**, v.i. To hurry (away): low (-1889). Barrère & Leland. Ex *slither*, to *slide*: cf. *slide*, q.v. Imm. ex dial.: E.D.D.' 1967S '**slither**, v. (p.783), is also Australian: B., 1943.'

Green gives '**slither** v. [late 19C+] to hurry away. [later use is Aus.]'
It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Slithery: sharp, evasive.

OED gives '**slithery** a. Slippery, in various senses.' (1825).
This term is not Australian.

Slope: *slang* to clear out without paying one's debts: mostly applied in boarding-houses. Generally to clear out or elope. Used in mining camps and large works.

AND gives **sloper** 'One who leaves a place without discharging a debt.' (1896).

OED gives '**slope** v.² 1. a. *intr.* To make off, depart, decamp.' (1830).

Slope is a standard term. Only the noun **sloper** is Australian.

Slump: a heavy or sudden fall in mining stocks or prices current.

B&L give as American, to recite badly, fail bungle.

Properly to sink in mire, hobble, or go about in an awkward manner.

[Newspaper clipping 28.8.1897 attached to A:-

Maxillus: 'Would-be purists are objecting to the introduction of the word 'slump' into the language of the share-market. I have even seen it stigmatised as a 'degradation to the language.' Lowell, however, uses it; not, indeed, as a noun, but as a verb. 'Your very God would *slump* into Himself, like a mockery king of snow.' ('Condescension in Foreigners.') Now, Lowell *was* a purist, and never used a so-called Americanism that was not an old English form, brought in by the Pilgrim Fathers. His use of the word gives it brevet rank. If it originally referred to the thawing and melting of snow into slush, this new use, as applied to shares, is really picturesque.')

OED gives '**slump** n. 1. *Stock Exchange*. A heavy fall or sudden decline in the price or value of commodities or securities.' (1888).

OED gives '**slump** v.² 3. To move or walk in a clumsy, heavy, or laborious manner. Also *fig.*' (1854).

This term is not Australian in either sense.

Slushy: from Morris: a station or camp cook's assistant. Probable derivation from slush, impure fat. A cook has as his perquisites all the fat – tallow – saved in the kitchen. One of his mate's duties was to save all the dripping from either roasting or boiling. He had to do all the 'slushing,' washing up, and scullery work.

Used for kitchen-men on steamboats and in restaurants.

AND gives '**slushy**, *n.*¹ [Transf. use of *slushy* 'a ship's cook; see OED(S.) 1. An assistant to a cook, esp. for a shearing gang.' (1891).

OED gives '**slush** *Naut.* The refuse fat or grease obtained from meat boiled on board ship.' (1756).

OED gives '**slushy**, *n.* **a.** A ship's cook; *spec.* as a nickname. Also in more gen. application: a cook; any unskilled kitchen or domestic help. **b.** = SLUSHER 1.' (1859).

This term is Australian.

The Australian sense differs from the standard sense 'a cook' as it refers to an assistant to the cook.

S&O'B's origin appears to be correct for a ship's cook. The origin for the Australian sense is from the standard term used to describe a ship's cook.

Smoke: *slang* to run away, make yourself scarce, do a get, mizzle. Sometimes 'smoke your dot.'

1. *AND* gives '**smoke**, *v.* **1.a. intr.** To make a hasty departure.' (1893).

This term is Australian.

2. There is no other evidence for **smoke your dot**.

Snag: an awkward person: a difficult or dangerous person or thing to approach or handle. Obviously of Mississippi River origin – an old tree submerged in the river, a fruitful source of wrecks. Australian rivers also have their snags. Marvellous to me how B&L miss this word.

AND gives '**snag** *n.*¹ [Fig. use of *snag* an obstacle.] An adversary to be reckoned with.' (1905).

This term is Australian.

S&O'B's definition is not exact but there is no evidence for **snag** in relation to a person in standard English. Their origin from a **snag** in a river is correct.

Snobocracy: similar to squattocracy, but a gibe at wealthy city people of great pretensions.

[Newspaper clipping (date illegible) attached to A:-
to be allowed to associate for a month or two with the choicest members of the Sydney snobocracy – who are so condescending that they actually allow ...]

OED gives '**snobocracy** The class of snobs, as having some power or exerting some influence. Also **snobocratic** *a*' (1853).

This term is not Australian.

Snooker: a game of pyramid pool, played with the addition of four coloured balls to the fifteen red balls.

B&L give Snooker as a newly-joined cadet-student of the fourth class in the Royal Military Academy.

OED gives '**snooker**, *n.*² A game, played with balls on a billiard table, combining pool and pyramids. Also **snooker('s) pool**.

It is commonly held that the word represents an allusive use of SNOOKER *n.*¹, a newly joined cadet, first applied to the game by Col. Sir Neville Chamberlain (1856-1944), a subaltern in the Devonshire Regiment stationed at Jubbulpore in central India in 1875, with reference to the rawness of the play of a fellow officer. The story is often repeated, e.g. in *The Times* (1980) 29 Dec. 9.' (1889).

This term is not Australian.

Snooks the bottle washer: a mythical person; an epithet applied to an unknown person. Snooks is supposed to be an abbreviated pronunciation of Seven-Oaks and an old English name similar to Cholmondeley and Beachamp.

OED gives '**snooks** A proper name or familiar appellation applied to a hypothetical person in a particular case (see quotes.); also, any individual person.' (1860).

This term is not Australian.

Snout: tobacco: perhaps a reversal of 'pigtail,' the commonest form in which tobacco used to be purveyed.

[Newspaper clipping from Red Page 7.8.1897 attached to A:-
Tobacco - 'Snout' old and common. Query: a remnant of Botany Bay times, when prisoners on road-works used to point to their mouths by way of silently asking for tobacco?]

OED '**snout** *n.*² 1. a. Tobacco.' (1885).

This term is not Australian.

Soak: *West Aust.* a depression containing water fed by soakage from surrounding hills or ranges. Also an habitual drunkard.

1. *AND* gives **soak** 'A hollow in (often sandy) soil where water which has oozed through or out of the ground; a water hole.' (1838).

This sense of the term **soak** is Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**soak** *n.* 3. A heavy drinker; a tippler.' (1820).

This sense of the term **soak** is not Australian.

Sod: a badly cooked damper: obviously an abbreviation of sodden. 'Many's the time he come over to borry a slice o' damper wen 'is own turned out a sod.' Recollections of Contributor on Kyrle Bellew, Bulletin, Poverty Point, 7.8.99.

AND gives **sod** 'a. A damper which has failed to rise.' (1852).
This term is Australian.

Soft stuff: *slang* lemonade, ginger beer, ginger ale, and any other non-alcoholic beverage. See 'Hard Stuff.'

[Newspaper clipping 1.2.1897 attached to A:-
Brisbane excise officers, the other day, surprised some alleged 'colonial ale' that contained nearly three-eighths of an ounce of sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol) and a lot of nicotine per gallon. The average Queenslander likes his 'soft stuff' that way; nothing but boiling nitric acid with corrosive sublimate and chloride of lime will do to flavor up his 'hard tack.']

OED gives '**soft** a. 25. b. orig. *dial.* and *U.S.* Of beverages (usu. cold fruit drinks and the like): Non-alcoholic, non-spirituos.' (1880).

The term **soft** is not Australian.

Soft stuff as opposed to **hard stuff** is not used elsewhere.

There is evidence of the use of **soft stuff**:

R Boldrewood's *The Miner's Right: A Tale of the Australian Goldfields* (1890).
'He hasn't been sober for a fortnight, as one might say, till last Monday; since then he hasn't touched a drop but **soft stuff** and tea.'

There are citations from Boldrewood (1890), the newspaper clipping included above (1897) and S&O'B.

Sool: *slang* to set a dog on, to incite or encourage him to attack.

Also used for men: to sool a man on to fight or to enter into an argument or dispute: to urge him on or encourage him.

1. AND gives '**sool** 1. *trans.* Of a dog: to worry; freq. *transf.* to harrass.' (1849).

2. AND gives '**sool** 2. *trans.* To urge or goad; to importune. Freq. with adv., esp. **on**.' (1889).

This term is Australian in both senses.

Soup-plate: *racing* applied to racecourses of small circumference: soup-plate tracks. There are several tracks in the Colonies of only half a mile circumference.

OED explains that it was 'common for soup plate to be used figuratively'. Some examples are included in the entry for **soup**, *n.* **3. a.**:

1900 *Daily News* 2 June 6/7 Some thirty years ago, when soup-plate bonnets and round-brimmed hats were in vogue.

1924 E.M. FORSTER *Passage to India* I. iii. 28 A sunk soup plate of a lawn.

1939 H HODGE *Cab, Sir?* 217 The badge itself is called a 'soup-plate'.

1964C. WILLOCK *Enormous Zoo* v. 80, I shone my torch and found a couple of large pink soup-plates glaring back at me a hippo.

There is not sufficient evidence for this term to be classified as Australian.

(The term **soup plate track** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 not after 1943.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

Green gives: 1920+ (Aus.)

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Spade press: a primitive wool-press in which a spade is used to press down the wool into the bale.

OED gives '**spade** *n.*¹ **5. spade-press** *Austr.*, a wool-press in which fleeces are compressed by means of a spade;' (1890). This citation is from Boldrewood.

Morris also uses the citation from Boldrewood.

There is evidence in ANDC's files:

C. H. Eden's *My Wife and I in Queensland* (1872)

'... he [the presser] wedges them down with an iron instrument called a spade.'

There is evidence for the verbal noun **spade pressing** in ANDC's files:

Goldsbrough, Mort and Co. Ltd. *A Practical Treatise on Wool and Sheep Breeding*. (1897).

'If spade pressing or simple tramping into bales be unavoidable, even then a neat, flat sided bale can be produced with care by uniform pressure.'

G. Walsh's *Pioneering Days: People and Innovations in Australia's Rural Past* (1993).

'Spade pressing was done by putting down a first layer of, say, eight fleeces in the bottom of the box. A spade was then inserted between each fleece in order to force eight more fleeces into the gaps created. Fleeces were then squeezed around the box and trampled down so that each layer in the bale consisted of sixteen fleeces.'

There is limited Australian evidence for the noun **spade press** but there is no doubt that spade presses were used.

(The term **spade press** is in Baker 1945. This term only occurs in his editions of *The Australian Language*.

J. Gunn in *The Terminology of the Shearing Industry* (1965) cites Baker 1945.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Spec: abbreviation of speculation. A good spec.: a bad spec.:

OED gives '**spec**, *n.*¹ *colloq. and slang* (orig. *U.S.*). 1. a. A commercial speculation or venture. Freq. with qualifying adj. as *bad, good.*' (1794). This term is not Australian.

Specking: *digging* fossicking in watercourses after rain or along the banks of rivers, or the surface for quartz outcrops.

AND gives '**specking**, *vbl. n. Mining.* The action of searching for surface gold or opal.' (1894). This term is Australian.

Spell: indifferently a term or period of work or rest. 'I shore a spell on Yanko.' 'I put in a spell at fencing.' 'I knocked off for a spell.' 'I had a spell in town.' 'I was laid up for a spell.' 'We had a spell of bad weather.' These are all colloquialisms.

OED gives '**spell**, *n.*³ 3. a. A continuous course or period of some work, occupation, or employment; a turn or bout *at* something. Also without const.' (1706).

This sense is not Australian.

OED gives '**spell**, *n.*³ 3. b. *dial. and Austral.* An interval or period of repose or relaxation; a rest.'

Examples from 1863 to 1975 may be found in *Dict. Newfoundland English* (1982).' (c1845).

This sense is Australian.

Spieler: a racecourse cheat: any gambling cheat or confidence-man. Applied to all who live by their wits, apart from vulgar theft. American, speeler, a gambler: German, spieler – spiel, to play.

AND gives **spieler** '[Orig. *U.S.* and now chiefly *Austral.*: see *OED(S.)* One who engages in sharp practice; a swindler, orig. a card sharper.' (1879). This term is chiefly Australian.

Spiffs: *drapers' slang* for bonus or premium: a spiff is a bonus paid to sales-people on certain articles they have managed to sell or palm off. It flourishes at the annual and semi-annual sales when back numbers and out-of-season goods are boomed off at suppositious reductions.

OED gives '**spiff** *n. pl.* (See quotes.) Also *attrib.*, as **spiff stores**, **system**.'
1859 *Slang Dict.* 98 *Spiffs*, the percentage allowed by drapers to their young men when they effect sale of old fashioned or undesirable stock.
1890 *Pall Mall G.* 2 April 3/2 To balance this network of penalties a 'spiff' system is usually adopted, spiffs being premiums placed on certain articles, *not* of the last fashion.

The citations are consistent with the information given by S&O'B.
This term is not Australian.

Spiffing: getting sales on to customers which carry spiffs.

There is no recorded use of this form of **spiff**. As *OED* has the verb the verbal noun is a possibility

Spiffing: all right, good, first class. In answer to 'How are you getting on?' a person might answer 'Spiffing.' i.e. very well. Probably derived from spiffs.

OED gives '**spiffing** *a. colloq. and dial.* Excellent, first-rate, very good, etc.; fine or smart in, or with regard to, dress or appearance. Also as *adv.* Sleigh *Derby. Gloss.* (1865) has *Spiffyn*, work well done.' (1872).
This term is not Australian.

Split-stuff: *slang* for the female commodity.

F&H give '**SPLIT MUTTON** = a woman.'

There is no Australian evidence for this term. This could be a combination of the two standard terms **split** (woman) and **stuff** (person). See *OED* entries below.

OED gives '**stuff**, *n.*¹ 7. *c.* Applied to a person: chiefly with qualifying word.' (1588).

OED gives '**split**, *n.*¹ 8. *slang. b. N. Amer.* A girl, a woman.' (1935).

(The term **split-stuff** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not after 1943.
EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Split-stuff: *timber getters* timber broken up with axe, wedges, maul, or shingle throe, as distinct from sawn timber. In Australia there are both sawn and split shingles, palings, laths, posts, rails, etc.

AND gives '**split**, *ppl. a. Hist.* [f. **SPLIT** *v.* 1.] 1. *b.* In the collocation **split stuff**, wood split as required for a particular purpose.' (1836).

This term is transferred from U.S. but is especially significant in Australian.

Spotter: a detective or spy of a private firm or department: see quote, June 5, '97.

[Newspaper clipping 5.6.1897 attached to A:-The conductor's *brother-in-law* has turned up on Vic. Trams at last and in force. On one single line, the other day, several conductors were allegedly caught by a 'spotter' ringing the *brother-in-law*, which is an ingenious little bell (imported from Yankeeland) held in the left hand and so rung as to make the deluded passenger think that the sound really comes from the bell-punch in the right hand.]

OED gives '**spotter** 2. a. U.S. A spy or detective, esp. one employed by a company to keep watch on employees, or one who watches for infringements of prohibition-laws.' (1876).

This term is not Australian.

Spotting: Morris.

[Morris: **Spotting**, *n.* New Zealand equivalent for the Australian "picking the eyes out," and "peacocking." Under *Free-selection* (q.v.), the squatter spotted his run, purchasing choice spots.]

DNZE gives detailed evidence for **spotting**. There is no evidence of the term being used in Australia.

This term is from New Zealand.

Sprag: a wooden or iron bollard or pin used for blocking skips waggons, or other rolling stock. It would be stuck between the spokes of the wheel and catch either against the underframe or body of the waggon: is used in mines, railways etc. A sprag or drag for a horse vehicle sometimes used is to cut down a tree or use a fallen tree: this tied behind the vehicle acts as a very effective brake going down steep hills.

Octagonal wooden pieces, two feet long, pointed at one end and shaped to a handle at the other, may be seen about railway yards.

OED gives '**sprag**, *n.*³ 2. a. A stout piece of wood used to check the revolution of a wheel (or roller), usually by inserting it between two of the spokes.' (1878).

This term is not Australian.

Spring-sides: boots with a piece of elastic webbing in the sides.

[Newspaper clipping 21.9.1897 attached to A:-

will, on application to the feet of the unemployed, cause to grow thereon immediately a pair of 22s. 6d. kangaroo-leather spring sides, and, applied to a bald head, it will promptly adorn it with a full thatch and a silken tile to protect it from the weather.]

AND gives **elastic-side** or '**lastic-side** A boot without laces and having a piece of elastic inset into each side; part of the traditional Australian bush costume.' (1891).

There is no other evidence for the term **spring-sides**.

(The term **springsides** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945, but it does not appear after 1945.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Spruker: *showmen* the orator who stands outside a show and lauds it to induce the public to enter is a spruker: obviously from 'sprucken,' German to speak.

Have seen advertisement 'Wanted a good spruker for side show, apply' etc.

AND gives **spruiker** 'Also **sprooker**. A speaker employed to attract custom, esp. to a sideshow; a barker; an eloquent speaker.' (1902).

This term is Australian.

Spud: a fencing tool: a long six-foot bar with a chisel point for digging post holes: at the other end a round flat boss for ramming rails home or stamping the earth around the post.

OED gives '**spud** *n.* **3. a.** A digging or weeding implement of the spade-type, having a narrow chisel-shaped blade.' (1667).

This term is not Australian.

Square: *Aust prison and push* a square girl is one who bears the name of being virtuous or continent.

General: straight, honest, faithful, not open to bribery or likely to be treacherous.

1. *AND* gives '**square**, *a.* *Obs.* [Spec. use of *square* honourable, upright.] Of a female: respectable.' (1892).

This sense is recorded earliest in Australia.

2. *OED* gives '**square** *n.* **16.** Slang uses. **a.** One who is square (**SQUARE** *a.* 9d); a person considered to hold conventional or old-fashioned views. orig. *U.S. Jazz.*' (1944).

S&O'B appears to use the standard sense, which is in *OED*, as the origin for the first sense.

Square-face: certain brands of gin, so-called from the shape of the bottles, which are oblong, slightly tapering to the base.

AND gives '**square**, *n.* [From the shape of the bottle in which gin was customarily sold; used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.] Also as **square cut**, **square face**, **square gin**.' The first citation for squareface is 1903.

This term is Australian.

Squatter: a large landholder who holds his land either by lease, occupation license, or purchase, and is a grazier either of sheep or cattle as distinguished from a farmer. But the term is losing its fixity, and some squatters are large farmers and some farmers are large graziers. The term has come to have a meaning almost equivalent to 'Landed Gentry,' a large landholder who owns a run or estate.

Morris has plenty of quotes of value.

Squatter is also used humorously for loafers: 'Domain squatter.'

[Newspaper clipping Red Page 20.9.1897 attached to A:-
'Webster's Unabridged', 1886, derives 'squatter' from the verb 'squat' to sit down with hams on heels, mentioning Old, Middle and Provincial English verbs 'quat', 'squat', &c., with same meaning. 'Squat' undoubtedly is from Lat. Coacto through the old French (the date is written across the cutting at this point making three lines unreadable.) Hence the U.S. usage of 'squatter' for a man who settles on new or public land without a title. The 'Century Dictionary' and the 1892 'Webster' note the special application in Australia of 'squatter' to the renter of a big tract of public land. Evidently the Australian meaning has risen out of the British - *via* the U.S.A. usage? The influx from California in the gold days probably helped to fix it. Henry Kingsley defines a 'squatter' in 'The Hillyars and the Burtons' - X.Z.]

AND gives **squatter** '1. Obs. One, esp. an ex-convict, who occupies Crown land without legal title.' (1837).

This term is Australian.

Squattacracy: an invented word, a compound of squatter and aristocracy, a gibe at the pretensions of many wealthy squatters.

[Newspaper clipping 17.4.1897 attached to A:-
- reopens his tempestuous career at the Lyceum with a comedy-drama called 'Squattocracy.' His advt. Announces the 'special engagement of Miss Myra Kemble after her wonderful recovery from...]

AND gives '**squattocracy** Also **squatocracy**. The squatters as an interest group; the squatters as a socio-economic group.' (1843).

This term is Australian.

Squirt: a nickname for colonial beer. *Slang*

There is no other evidence for this sense of the term **squirt**.

(The term **squirt** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 not after 1945.
It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Stag: a half-grown wild bull. A young bull often eludes the vigilance of the stockmen when mustering, and consequently escapes the ordeal and consequences of cutting and branding. A really wild bull three years old is not an easy or safe customer to manage, and they are often shot in their tracks on stations where they select the breeding bulls.
Derivation possibly from their similarity to the Old World wild stag in courage, viciousness, and love of liberty.

AND gives '**stag**. [Br. dial.: see OED sb.¹ 3.] 1. A beast castrated after reaching maturity; an inferior bullock.' (1848).

OED gives '**stag** 2. *north.* and *Sc.* A young horse, esp. one unbroken.' (1318).
The Australian sense differs from the standard term as it is applied to a bull rather than a horse. S&O'B's origin appears to be correct.

Standing down: *turf term* trainers, owners, or jockies under terms of disqualification for malpractices are said to be standing down.

OED gives '**stand** v. 92. *b. Sport.* To withdraw from a game, match, or race; to give up one's place in a team, crew, or 'side'. (1890).

The OED sense does not refer to disqualification.

There is evidence that this term is Australian. There is a lot of recent evidence of the term used for any person who is stood down from sport or employment as a result of illegal behaviour. This appears to have been transferred from the term used for jockeys being stood down while being investigated. There is no dictionary evidence for the phrase **standing down** in this sense.

This phrase is Australian in this sense.

Start: a colloquialism for commerce:

2. a job or employment: 'I got a start this morning' means got put on to work.

1. There is no evidence for this sense of the term.

2. OED gives '**start** n. ² 4. *a.* A starting into activity; a sudden and transient effort or display of energy.' (1605).

OED gives '**start** n. ² 5. *a* the beginning of a career.' (1693).

This term is not Australian.

(The term **start** defined as 'a job' is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1959. It is not in Baker 1945. This is not in Baker after 1959.
It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Station: Morris.

[**Morris: Station**, *n.* originally the house with the necessary buildings and home-premises of a sheep-run, and still used in that sense; but now more generally signifying the run and all that goes with it. *Stations* are distinguished as *Sheep-stations* and *Cattle-stations*.]

AND gives **station** '3. An extensive sheep or cattle raising establishment.' (1822).

This term is Australian.

Stick: *slang* to stand to a mate in a fight or adversity: to champion or defend anyone is to 'stick' for them.

OED gives '**stick**, *v.*¹ 26. **b.** To remain resolutely faithful or attached to (a person or party), not to desert. Now chiefly *colloq.*' (1535)

This term is not Australian.

Sticker: *slang* a determined person: one with a great amount of tenacity: persevering, undaunted.

OED '**sticker** ¹ 3. **a.** One who or something which adheres or remains attached; one who remains constant; one who persists in a task. Const. *to*, *unto*.' (1674).

This term is not Australian.

Stick up: *slang* to get things on credit. 'Stick it up on the slate' or book it. 'To stick up a few beers or stores' to get them on credit.

OED gives '**stick up** *v.*¹ 35. **j.** *colloq.* To place (a charge) in a tavern-score; *gen.* to put down to one's debit in an account.' (1865).

This term is not Australian.

Stick up: to bail up and rob, in bushranging. Perhaps from bushrangers compelling victims to hold or 'stick up' their hands in the air as a safeguard against the victims getting out and using any weapons they might have concealed about their persons. To stick up a bank or station or store is synonymous with bailing up and robbing them.

AND gives '**stick**, v. 1. *trans.* With **up. b.** [Now also used elsewhere: see OED(S v. 1 34k.) *trans.* Of an (armed) bushranger: to stop by force and rob (a person or persons) on the road; to rob (a building, coach, etc., or the occupants thereof) under threat of violence.' (1843).

This term is Australian.

Stiff: hard up: broke: a state of impecuniosity in this sense is stiffness.

Adj. 2. A horse or man or even a politician not honestly trying to win any race or contest is stiff.

Noun 3. Undertaker's slang for a corpse.

Noun 4. A Court summons.

There appears to be a connection between all these meanings: apparently the undertakers are the sponsors.

R. Bedford: 'Jack Wilkie,' Bulletin, 8.4.99:

And now as motherless and stiff

As ever was a sailor man.

1. AND gives '**stiff 1.** Penniless. Hence unlucky.' (1898).

This sense is Australian.

2. OED gives '**stiff a., n, and adv. 2.b. (b) slang**, a racehorse certain to lose or not to run at all.' (1890. B&L).

Both B&L and F&H give the Australian horseracing sense as 'certain to win.' only.

There is no evidence of a politician not trying to win.

This sense is not Australian.

3. OED gives '**stiff a., n, and adv. 2.b. (a) a corpse (slang).** 1200.'

This sense is not Australian.

4. There are three citations for this sense in the ANDC's files:

Sydney Slang Dictionary (1882).

'Stiff – A summons, warrant, or other court document.'

T Esson's *Dead Timber And Other Plays* (1920).

'The Law's strict nowadays'.

SMITHY. I've only been out three weeks.

CONSTABLE. You're qualifying for a stiff for the crust.

SMITHY. (Innocently.) What have I done, Mr. Jones ?

(The glossary gives 'a stiff' as 'police summons', and 'crust' as 'a vagrancy charge'.)

Bulletin (29.10.1903)

'The term 'stiff', probably an abbreviation of certificate, was originally only used to describe such a document, now it means anything. A summons, a bill, a boat ticket, a travelling-stock permit ('stock-stiff') a license eg. 'Has he got a hawker's stiff?'

This sense of the term is Australian, and should be included in AND.

(The term **stiff** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1959. The term is not in Baker 1945, or after 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942

Green gives **stiff** a summons from the police.[20C]

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Stock-horse: a horse trained to work stock, i.e. cattle.

A stock-horse must be able to gallop over any kind of country, to wheel suddenly, to prop himself and slew around, to lay up against and turn a rush of cattle. He must be docile, sound, and game, and have all the cleverness of a first-class polo pony.

AND gives '**stock 2. Special Comb. horse**, a horse trained to work with stock.' (1838).

This term is Australian.

Stockman: *bush* a man with a thorough knowledge of stock: must be able to draft, muster, brand, cut, and drove, and have a fertility of resource in dealing with stock.

Stock-rider, stock-keeper, are variants of above.

AND gives '**stockman 1.** One employed to tend livestock, esp. cattle.' (1803), '**stock rider**, STOCKMAN.' (1844), '**stock-keeper. Obs. STOCKMAN.**' (1795).

This term is Australian.

Stock routes: these are right-of-ways or reserves traversing the Colonies in different directions, partly roads, partly commons, and partly through occupied country. Their use is to give ample road room without risk of trespass and with a chance of ample feed to travelling stock. One regular job on stations which stock routes traverse is to watch that travelling stock does not overstep the boundaries. These routes in settled country are from two to four chains wide, but on Crown or unoccupied lands there is no limit, and the route for the time being is where water and grass can be had easiest.

AND '**stock route**, travelling stock route.' (1884).

This term is Australian.

Stock up: to depasture stock on a station to its full limit or capacity. Overstocking is the fruitful source of drought disaster. When water and grass become scarce a station that is over-stocked feels the pinch first and suffers the greatest loss.

OED gives '**stock v¹. 22. intr.** Of live stock: To bear being crowded on pasture land.' (1863).

This term is not Australian.

Stockwhip: a long-thonged whip with a short handle, used for driving stock. The handle is from fifteen to twenty inches in length and the thong from three to five yards in length, having a thickness at about one-third of its length from the handle of from three-quarters to one inch and tapering to a cracker. In the hands of an expert on horseback it is a fearful weapon. When cracked it sounds like a gunshot, but when used viciously it can be made to flay a recalcitrant bullock. When a bullock breaks away it is the stockman's 'shepherd's crook' with which he can blind and stupefy his 'wandering one' and bring him back to the fold. It is a favourite bush joke to give a new chum a big stockwhip to crack. He will most likely tangle himself in its coils, and perhaps give himself in addition one or two severe clouts with the erratic thong.

AND gives '**stockwhip** 1. A whip used in the handling of cattle.' (1839). This term is Australian.

Stoomer: *gambling and racing* a broker, a bankrupt, a defaulter. To come a 'stoomer' is to stake or bet and lose everything.

Stoomey – broke, hard up.

B&L give: Stumer – London slang a fictitious or dishonored cheque: from German stumm, stumme – dumb, in imitation of English, dummy, meaning both dumb and sham.

1. AND gives **stumer** 'Obs. Also **stoomer**.' 'One who is penniless. In the phr. **to come a stumer**, to lose one's money.' (1898)

The citations in AND are from *Bulletin* (1898) (the article written by O'Brien), S&O'B 1910 and Baker 1941.

The only evidence in citations apart from the above is in Wilkes (1978). Wilkes gives two citations (1908 and 1925) from author E.S. Sorenson, an author closely associated with the *Bulletin*.

Wilkes (1996) does not include the term.

There is not sufficient evidence for this term.

2. There is no evidence for the term **stoomey**.

The sense given from B&L by S&O'B appears to suggest the origin for the Australian sense.

(The term **stumer** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945. The term is not in Baker 1959.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942

Green gives [late 19C+] (Aus./N.Z.)

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Store cattle: ordinary station cattle as distinguished from stud cattle and fats, i.e. cattle put into special paddocks to fatten for market.

OED gives '**store** *n.* 13. *c.* Designating animals kept for breeding or as part of the ordinary stock of a farm; also animals bought lean to be fattened; as **store beast, bullock, cattle, cow, pig, sheep, sow, stock, swine; store-farm**, a farm on which cattle are reared, a stock farm; also **store-farmer, -farming, -master.**' (1602).

This term is not Australian.

Store sheep: the ordinary flocks grazed for shearing as distinguished from stud sheep or fats.

OED gives '**store**, *n.* 13. *attrib..* Designating animals kept for breeding or as part of the ordinary stock of a farm; also animals bought lean to be fattened; as **store beast, bullock, cattle, cow, pig, sheep, sow, stock, swine; store-farm**, a farm on which cattle are reared, a stock farm; also **store-farmer, -farming, -master.**' (1733).

This term is not Australian.

Stoush: *slang* to hit or punch. By transference, to brutal assault, singly or in company. The pushes or gangs of larrikins call the beating of a civilian or policeman 'dealing out stoush.'

B&L give: stash, to cease, stay, leave off.

Possible connection with 'stansh' – to stop bleeding of a wound.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

20.3.1897 – BULLETIN: Within the last month or so the inevitable 'larrikin outrage' has been a little more violent than it commonly is in and around Sydney. It is always more or less violent, the 'push' is always present, and the unprovoked 'stoushing' of somebody out of pure cussedness is an event which happens several times every week with varying degrees of ferocity. But when there is more unprovoked battery than usual, and the victim's brains protrude further ...

14.4.1897: On another day, in the Eastern market, I saw a large African 'dealing out stoush' to an infuriated white, and being polished off in turn by a scientific stranger who bled him in truly fashion.

12.6.1897: The New Woman has got fairly on with the job with yet another masculine profession. That 'young man from the country' who was 'dealt with' the other night, in Crown-street, Sydney, couldn't possibly have got it hotter from the knave-of-trousers than he did from the fair five creatures who 'stoushed' him savagely in the eye, battered him to the ground, kicked him murderously about the head, choked him half to death, and cleaned him out of 9 pounds.

25.9.1897: Two 'flash' carriers met in the (full) bar of small backblocks pub. Ginisty, evidently looking for 'stoush,' to Hooley: 'Strike me! I'm the blanky faded flower.'

18.11.1897: Stoush (heading)

Lyne's abrupt offer in N.S.W. Assembly to personally bash Premier Reid may possibly be a sign of assault and battery to come.]

1. *AND* gives **stoush** v. 'Also **stouch**. [f. prec.] a. *trans*. To punch, strike, or thrash (a person).' (1893).

This sense is Australian.

S&O'B's possible origin is incorrect.

2. *AND* gives **stoush** 1. 'b. In the phr. **to deal out stoush**.' (1901).

This phrase is Australian.

Street-walker & Co: a man out of work says he is working for Street, W, & Co, i.e. he is walking about looking for a job. Inspector of City Buildings is a man walking about looking for work and praying he will not find it.

There is no other evidence for the term.

(The phrase **street, walker and co**. Baker 1941 and 1943. The term is not used by Baker after 1943.

EP 1967S gives **Working for Street, Walker & Co** since 1920, citing Baker 1942.

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Stringy bark: *slang* applied to the very inferior beer brewed and sold in the country parts of Australia. I have heard a publican or shanty keeper asked if he made his beer of stringy bark and water. Stringy bark is a tree the bark of which can be torn into filaments somewhat after the manner of flax, but without its strength. Stringy bark is sometimes twisted into a rough rope and used as hay-bands.

AND gives '**stringybark** 3. Beer, esp. of poor quality.' (1848).

This term is Australian.

Stuck-up: 1. Beat for an argument or a word;
2. brought to a stop, as in carrying, by a flood, or boggy roads, or want of feed;
3. brought to bay at the end of the tether;
4. *slang* conceited, supercilious, with a great amount of superiority.

1., 2. and 3. *OED* gives '**stuck** ppl. a. 2. Unable to go further.' (1885).
This sense of the term is not Australian.

4. *OED* gives '**stuck-up** a. *colloq*. Assuming an unjustified air of superiority, or pluming oneself unduly on real superiority; offensively pretentious.' (1829).
This sense of the term is not Australian.

Suck, sucker: a sponger. Either a boss who sponges on his men or a man who spys, pimps, and carries information to a boss and will 'lick the boss's boots.'

[Newspaper clipping ?1898? attached to A:-

Among miners, companies are known by the managers they keep, and there is one (not uncommon) type of manager who uses his position as a means of securing a cheap complete spree once a fortnight and an unfailing stream of beer throughout the weeks. He is the manager who has only room for the man who shouts, and who sends down the track the miner who neglects to liquor him at every opportunity. Two or three Bull co's in Gippsland have mine-managers of this stamp – known among the men as 'Suckers.'

1. OED gives '**suck** *n.* 10. *e. intr. to suck up to*, to curry favour with; to toady to. (Also without *to.*) *slang* (orig. *Schoolboys*). Cf. *sucker-up*.' (1860).

This term is not Australian.

2. OED gives '**sucker** *n.* **sucker-up** *IV.* 14. *attrib. and Comb., sucker-up* = **SUCK** *n.* 10 (cf. **SUCK** *v.* 1 26 *e.*).' (1911).

OED gives '**suck** *v.* 1 26 *e. intr. to suck up to*, to curry favour with; to toady to. (Also without *to.*) *slang* (orig. *Schoolboys*).' (1860).

This term is not Australian.

Suck, or suck-hole, or suck-arse: a low-down cringing sycophant. Workmen's epithet for a tale-bearer or informer who ingratiates himself with foreman or master by doing informing or other dirty work. 'He would suck the boss's hole if he asked him to.'

1. OED gives '**suck** *n.* 10. *slang.* A sycophant; esp. a schoolboy who curries favour with teachers.' (1900).

This term is not Australian.

2. AND gives '**suckhole**. A sycophant.' (1943).

The *Oxford Canadian Dictionary* gives the term as Canadian and Australian.

3. There is no evidence for **suck-arse** before R.L. Chapman in the *New Dictionary of American Slang*, New York 1986. Chapman's citation is much later than the S&O'B text. S&O'B appear to be the first evidence of the term **suck-arse**.

This is a very early citation for both **suck-hole** and **suck-arse**.

The terms **suckhole** and **suck-arse** are originally Australian.

Sugar: slang for money. Syns. – rhino, brass, spon, spondulix, brads, dibs, beans, gilt, glitter, oot, oof, ooftish, pieces.

OED give '**sugar** *n.* 2.c. *slang.* Money.' (1862).

Matsell (1859) gives '**sugar** Money.'

The earliest citation is Matsell which suggests that it may be US.

This term is not Australian.

OED gives '**rhino** Money. (Often **ready rhino**.)' (1688).
 OED gives '**brass** *n.* 3. Money. **b.** Money in general, cash. *slang or dial.*' (1597-8 to 1871).
 AND gives '**spons** *abbrev.* Of spondulicks – money.' (1879).
 OED gives '**spondulicks** Money, cash. Also, a piece of money, a coin.' (1857).
 OED gives '**brad** 2. **brads**' (1812 Vaux).
 OED gives '**dib** *n.* 2. 3. *pl.*' (1812).
 OED gives '**bean** *n.* 6. **f.**' (1811).
 OED gives '**gilt** 3. **a.**' (1598).
 There is no evidence of the term **glitter**.
 EP 1967S gives '**oot** since 1920.' He did not take this term from Baker.
 OED gives '**oof** *n.* 1. 1. **ooftish**' (1885).
 OED gives '**piece** *n.* 3. **c. pieces**' (1526).

The only Australian term in this entry is **spons**.

Sundowner: a loafing, cadging tramp or swagman: one who does not want work, only rations, tobacco and drink.

[Newspaper clippings (undated) attached to A:-

Sundowner: Professional loafer with swag. Carries three sets of ration-bags, and sticks to short stages mostly in sheep country. Etymology obvious. Mostly well-patched and dirty; knows the ropes. Travels five to seven miles per day, and knows where he is going to camp.

Dear BULLETIN – 'The Banjo's' remark in his excellent sketch 'White When He's Wanted' 'had it not been for that indefinable, self-reliant look one might have taken him for a swagman,' sticks in my throat! If 'Banjo' meant a 'sundowner' or a 'whaler' (men who never work) he should have said so. Drovers, like all bush workers, *are* swagmen – sometimes.]

AND gives '**sundowner** . An itinerant, ostensibly seeking work, who arrives at a place at the end of the day.' (1868).
 This term is Australian.

The newspaper clippings clarify the difference between the terms **sundowner**, **whaler** and **swagman**.

The writer in the *Bulletin* is correct when he asserts that a **sundowner** and a **whaler** were terms applied to men who were less often looking for work than a **swagman**, who was likely to be a bush worker.

Swagman: any man travelling on foot, carrying his belongings in a swag. See 'Swag.'

[There is no entry for 'swag'.]

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

Undated: True, horsemen are more respected in the bush than swagmen; and drovers, shearers and horse-breakers who travel mostly on horseback look down with infinite contempt upon the man who walks and carries his swag. But even the proudest horseman makes a splash occasionally and 'jumps his moke over the bar,' and has to walk away from the shanty and the keeper's daughter with his bundle up, in search of any kind of work to raise the price of more horseflesh. I recently met a chap I knew further out when I used to follow droving. He was riding the kind of horse most people like to lose, and no one cares about finding – a poor, miserable, toothless crack. You could count his ribs, blindfolded, and hang up tin plates all over him. His lower lip was hanging down his chest, and his eyes were always half-closed. The whole frame seemed only kept together by an old greenhide saddle-girth, and threatened to fall in a huddled heap the moment the girth was unbuckled. 'Don't like this part of the country,' said my drover friend, as he awoke his noble steed, who'd fallen fast asleep the minute he stopped, with a jerk of the hay-band reins; 'nothing but miserable swag-humping fellers about these here parts.' That night at the station (I got there before him on foot) he planted his heap of bones in the scrub and sneaked to the store with his ration-bags. 'It don't look well,' he whispered into my ear, 'for a horseman to be seen cadging a pint o' dust.'

Undated: 'Half the world doesn't know how the other half lives.' Does half the world know how the other half dies? Printed in small type and hidden in obscure corners, one meets every day in the N.S.W. press these pitiful Pars (actual clippings on dates given):-

An old swagman named Peterson was found dead by his mate on the road two miles from Yass, N.S.W. – 30/12/'96.

An elderly swagman, a stranger in the district, was seen to stagger and fall last Sunday near Dapto, N.S.W. He was carried under the shade of a verandah, where life was found to be extinct. – 1/1/'97.

The body of an unknown swagman was found in a shearer's hut Combaning station, near Temora, N.S.W. A matchbox found on him contained a three-penny bit and a Union ticket issued to James Connelly by Wagga Branch A.W.U. – 2/1/'97.

An inquest was held on the body of a swagman found near Lagawarra, N.S.W. No clue to identity. – 3/1/'97.

The body of an unknown swagman was found on Glenlyon station, near Broken Hill. A union ticket issued to Arthur Hasley found on him was the only clue to his identity. – 5/1/'97.

10.7.1897: Ten months passed. The children were playing touch round the house, when Maggie called out: 'Here comes a swagman!' They all stopped in their game to stare. A man, bent in the shoulders and dragging his feet wearily, was coming towards the house.

28.8.1897: Every second swagman one meets on the track is a tradesman or professional of some sort. It's quite common at shearing on large stations to find a couple of broken-down doctors, a brace of lawyers, a parson or two, and several bank-accountants in the rouseabouts' hut.]

AND gives '**swagman**. Formerly also **swagsman**. **a**. One who carries a swag; an itinerant worker, esp. one in search of employment, who carries a swag; a tramp.' (1869).

This term is Australian.

Swamper: West Australian term for a traveller making his way on foot to the gold-fields. Syns: swagman, tramp.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

11.11.1897?: A Westralian red-dust track; evening. Swamper with swag, camped, intently regarding fire. Footsteps in the distance; second swamper appears, looking a degree or two worse off; throws down his swag uninvited with: 'Anything to eat, mate?' 'Nothing,' growls the other, 'only a billy of tea.'

20.3.1899: *A Coolgardie Battler*

[FOR THE BULLETIN]

We were just a dozen 'swampers,' spread out round the fire at Keen's Soak, the first night out from the Cross. Q. SPINIFEX.]

AND gives '**swamper**. a. One who travels on foot but whose baggage is carried on a wagon.' (1894).

This term is Australian. The citations in *AND* suggest the term was not restricted to Western Australia.

Sword swallowing: eating with your knife.

AND gives '**sword**. *Obs.* 2. *fig.* A knife; esp. *attrib.* as sword-swallower (see quot. 1965); also **sword-swallowing** *vbl.n.*' The citations are from Baker 1941, Gunn 1965 and P. Adam Smith 1982.

This entry antedates *AND*.

This term is Australian.

(The term **sword swallowing** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. The term is not used by Baker after 1943.

EP 1967S cites Baker, but does not specify a particular edition.

Green gives [1940s] (Aus.)

It seems likely Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Sydney-side: a name for New South Wales natives in Victoria, Queensland, and Central Australia.

[Newspaper clipping 27.3.1897 attached to A:-

'Re a new name for N.S.W.'

What about 'Sydney-side'? This is the name affectionately given to N.S.W. by Vic old-timers. It expresses its own meaning definitely enough; it has already been in use for years, and it is euphonious. Does it go?]

AND gives '**Sydney**. 1. Used *attrib.* in Special Comb. **-side**, New South Wales, as being on the other side of a natural barrier or border ... the city of

Sydney and its environs,' (1846). 'also as adj.; **-sider**, a non-Aboriginal person native to or resident in **(a)** New South Wales, **(b)** Sydney, **(c)** Australia.' (1865).

This term is Australian.

T

Tail: 1. *bush slang* to follow or shepherd sheep:
2. *bush* to count sheep or cattle: a corruption of tally.
3. *slang* to follow or spy upon, to keep under surveillance synonymous with 'to fox,' 'to tout.'

1. *AND* gives **tail**, v.¹ 'To follow, herd, and tend (livestock):' (1843).
This sense is Australian.

2. *OED* gives '**tail** v.² IV. Related to *tail* a tally (TAIL n.² 4). 7. *trans.* To mark or record on a tally; to charge (a person) with a debt; *transf.* to make a mark on, to mark. *Obs.*' (1377).

'**tail** n.². IV. 4. a. = TALLY n.¹ 1; hence, a score, an account. *by tail*, by means of tallies; on credit. (Cf. *on tick*.) *Obs.* [Cf. Cotgr. '*Taille*..also, a tallie, or score kept on a peece of wood'.].' (1114 to 1677).

The term given by S&O'B appears to be a continuation of British dialect. There is no Australian evidence for the term outside this material.

3. *OED* gives '**tail**, n.¹ 11. h. *to be on someone's tail* and *varr.*, to follow or pursue someone closely. Also *fig.*' (1865).

This sense is not Australian.

(The term **tail** is in Baker 1941, 1943 & 1945 (1) 'to herd sheep & tend stock (2) Whence to follow'. Baker drops this term after 1945.)

Tailers-out: *sawmilling* the men who take delivery of the timber behind the saw, keeping it steady, bringing up the trollies, and either stacking the finished stuff or returning the unfinished back to the sawyer.

AND gives '**tailer out**. In a saw-mill: the employee responsible for guiding timber as it comes off the saw.' (1895).
This term is Australian.

Tailing: an extension of 'tail.'

AND gives '**tailing** the docking of an animal's tail.' (1916).

AND gives '**tailing** The herding and tending of livestock.' (1848).

This term is Australian.

The meaning intended by S&O'B is unclear, but they probably meant the first sense of **tail** in the entry above.

Tailings: *mining* the refuse from auriferous washdirt, either from a crushing, puddling, or sluicing plant.

In the early days of the Colonial goldfields large yields were looked for, and the appliances used for recovering the gold being somewhat primitive, the infinite pains taken to save the gold at the present time were lacking, and the tailings on many goldfields still contained a proportion of gold which escaped and was not in those 'flush' days worth bothering over. Even in latter days light 'floaty' gold (i.e. very fine and flaky) escaped to a considerable degree: also gold combined with other minerals which resisted the chemical and mechanical methods used. All this gold lay in the tailings heaps spread over the different fields. With the latter improvements in the electrical, chemical, and mechanical recovery of gold the tailings acquired a value, and are now consistently treated till the gold last is reduced to nil or else a very insignificant amount.

Fossicking in old workings and deserted diggings among the tailings was an employment favoured by large numbers of Chinamen, who were satisfied with smaller returns than the white digger.

OED gives '**tailing** *vbl. n.*¹ **2. pl.** A name for the inferior qualities, leavings, or residue of any product; foots, bottoms. **b. Mining.** The residuum after most of the valuable ore has been extracted. **c.** A decomposed outcrop of a vein or bed.' (1864).

The sense which S&O'B give for the term **tailings** is not Australian.

Take down: *slang* to lower a person in their own estimation.

From 'to take anyone down a peg.'

2. To rob by trick, to defraud or swindle. All spielers, confidence men, pickpockets, etc, are commonly known as 'take-downs.'

3. To beat an opponent at any contest or trial of strength or skill, more especially if the opponent lays any claim to be a champion or expert.

4. To get the best of any person in a business transaction, either by finesse or luck.

5. To induce anyone to guarantee or finance you in business in good faith and then deceive them for your own profit.

6. To induce a friend or acquaintance to bet or venture on a race or speculation of which you control certain elements and then to alter the arrangements (such as deciding your horse or man not to win, or altering facts and figures) to cause him to lose. A jockey pulling his master's horse, or a footracer or pugilist deliberately losing when the backers staked on them is also a take down.

1. *OED* gives '**take** *v.* **82.c. to take anyone down a peg.**' (1562).

This sense is not Australian.

3. *OED* gives '**take** *v.* **82.b. (d)** in a school, to get above (another scholar) in class; so of a boat in a race, to get in front of (another boat);' (1828).

This sense is not Australian.

2., 4, 5 and 6 all involve cheating or deception.

OED gives '**take** *v.* **82.g. take down** to cheat, trick, swindle (Austral slang).' (1895).

OED gives '**take- take-down**, (c) *Austral. slang*, a deceiver, cheat, or thief;' (1905).

There is citation evidence in ANDC reject files from 1896 to 1961 for **take down** and **taken down**. It appears this is Australian probably from the US as **take** in a criminal sense was used earliest in the US. See *OED* entry below:

OED gives '**take** *n. b. Criminals' slang* (chiefly U.S.). Money acquired by theft or fraud.' (1888).

(The term **take down** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. He gives '**take-down** a deception (2) a thief or swindler (3) a person who has been swindled. Also **take (someone) down** to swindle, mislead a person. (2) To best in a game of skill.'

Baker does not give this term in 1945. Baker 1959 gives '**take down** a deception or fraud.'

EP 1967S gives '**take-down** a swindler' and cites Baker 1942 and 1943.

Green gives '**take-down** [late 19C] (Aus) to cheat, to swindle, to rob.'

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Take-in: *slang* to deceive, delude, or defraud anyone. Any swindle or 'take down' is called a 'take in.' A person buying an article which turned out faulty would call it a 'take in:' or paid for admission to any place or exhibition which was a fraud would also call it a 'take in.' Possibly derived from Biblical: 'I was a stranger and they took me in.'

OED gives '**take-in**, *n. (a.) colloq.* An act of taking in (TAKE *v.* 84o); a cheat, swindle, deception; a thing or person that takes one in, a 'fraud'.' (1778).

'*b. attrib. or adj.* That takes in; deceptive.' (1819).

OED gives '**take**, *v.* 84. **take in**. *o.* To deceive, cheat, trick, impose upon. *colloq.*' (1740).

This term is not Australian. The origin which S&O'B suggest is unlikely.

Take on, or took on: *slang* this is a phrase of very wide meaning. Employers engaging men are said to take them on. In pugilistic or athletic circles competitors speak of taking each other on, i.e. agreeing to a match or contest. Common vernacular uses the phrase for 'tried' - 'I took on the play last night,' i.e. went to the play. 'I took on Jack at billiards and he beat me.' 'I took on that picnic yesterday.' 'Will you take me on?' is a question following any proposal either of business, sport, or pleasure.

1. Employment OED gives '**take** *v.* 86 **c. take on** to take (a person) into one's employment.' (1611).

2. Pugilistic OED gives '**take** *v.* 86 **d.** (b) To engage (someone) in a fight, contest, argument etc.' (1885).

3. Common vernacular OED gives '**take** *v.* 84 **k.** to include in a journey or visit; *loosely*, to go to.' (1647).

All senses of this term are not Australian.

Take water: *shearing and bush slang* to leave an hotel after a spree or burst 'dead broke,' (i.e. hard up, without money) is to take water. No doubt from 'leaving off the booze' and taking to water. In Bulletin clip, 1.10.98.

There is one citation in the ANDC's files, this is the citation referred to by S&O'B:

Take water 1.10.1898 *Bulletin*
... to leave the pub broke is to 'take water.'

There is not enough evidence for this term.

(The term **take water** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945 but not after 1945.
EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

Green gives **take water** [20C] (Aust.)

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Talent: *slang* gamblers, spielers, confidence men, and the idle and disorderly class in general. Synonymous with 'push,' a word that has superseded it in general use. The Rocks Talent, etc. Each locality had its 'talent' or 'push' of thieves, gamblers or larrikins.

The meaning of the word is in no way connected with ability, but simply meant crowd or mob or coterie. We have the 'racing talent' which would mean people who followed up horse-racing. The word appears to have originated from 'Forties,' a still older name for the larrikin class, no doubt an abbreviation of 'Forty Thieves,' and from that to 'talent' (Biblical) a sum of money (forty pieces of silver?) 'Nine of the talent were roped-in at Auckland for playing an illegal game ...' *Bulletin*, 20.5.99.

AND gives '**talent** The underworld; those who frequent it; an organised gang of these.' (1879).

This term is Australian.

The origin suggested in the entry is unlikely. It seems more likely the origin is from the standard sense given in *OED*.

OED gives '**talent** *n.* 6. *d.* Talent as embodied in the talented; sometimes approaching or passing into the sense: Persons of talent or ability collectively; as sing., a person of talent. By the sporting press, applied to backers of horses, as distinguished from the 'layers' or bookmakers, the implication being that those whose investments make a horse a 'favourite' are supposed to be 'the clever ones'.

(**Administration of** *All the Talents* (*Eng. Hist.*), an ironical appellation of the Ministry of Lord Grenville, 1806-7, implying that it combined in its members all the talents.' (1809).

'*e.* Frequenters of the underworld. *Austral. slang.* Now *Obs.* or *rare.*' (1882).

Talking through your hat, through your braces, through your neck: all sarcastic ways of describing anyone talking at random or foolishly.

1. *OED* gives '**hat** *n.* 5. *c.* **to talk through one's hat:** to make unsupported or 'wild' assertions, to talk nonsense.' (1888).

2. There is no evidence for **talking through your braces** outside this material.

3. *OED* gives '**neck** *n.*¹ 23. **to talk through (the back of) one's neck** and variants (*colloq.*): to use extravagant words or language not substantiated by fact; to talk nonsense.' (1899).

These phrases are not Australian.

(The phrase **to talk through one's braces** is in Baker 1941 and 1942 but not after 1942.

EP 1967S gives 'Australian: since ca. 1920. Baker.'

Green gives [1920s+] (Aus.)

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Tambaroora, or Tambaroora muster: a mustering up of money for shouting purposes: similar somewhat to a tarpaulin muster. (1882 quote by Morris from A.J. Boyce.)

There is a doubt in my mind as to whether the game takes its name from the Queensland town: I think there was a Tambaroora diggings of a much earlier date, in the Fifties about, and the game is a very old one in New South Wales. It is more than likely that the game was sponsor to the Queensland town. Look up Tambaroora (Hill End District): I think in a Gazette.

AND gives '**tambaroora** *a.* A game which each participant contributes an agreed sum to a pool which is then gambled for, the winner being required to buy drinks for the participants with (some of) the winnings.' (1882). The citations are widespread.

Tambaroora was taken from the name of the goldfields at Hill End NSW, as S&O'B suggest. S&O'B are also correct about the alternate Australian term, **tarpaulin muster**.

This term is Australian.

Tannergrams: (Morris) Limited local use in New Zealand.

[**Morris: Tannergrams**, *n.* very recent New Zealand slang. On 1st of June, 1896, the New Zealand Government reduced the price of telegrams to sixpence (slang, a 'tanner') for twelve words.]

[Morris uses *Oamaru Mail* 1896 as evidence.]

DNZE gives '**tannergrams**' with three citations *Oamaru Mail* 1896, Morris 1898, Baker 1941.

There is no other Australian evidence but there is some evidence for this term in New Zealand.

(The term **tannergrams** is in Baker 1941 and 1943, Baker 1945 describes the term as one of Morris's 'trivial' entries.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B rather than Morris.)

Tarry Rope: *slang, Sydney* a nickname for the women and girls who frequent the waterside parts of Sydney and consort with sailors, more especially with the man-of-warsmen: no doubt an allusion to the connection existing between sailors, tar, and rope.

OED gives '**tarry** *a.* 4. *Comb.*: **tarry-breeks** (orig. Sc.), **-jacket**, **-John**, humorous nicknames for a sailor (cf TAR *n.* 3); **tarry-fingered**, **-fisted** *adjs.*, having the fingers or hands smeared with tar; *fig. thievish.*' (1786). There is not sufficient evidence for this term.

(The term **tarry rope** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945. In the latter publication it is given as **old term**. It is not in later publications. EP 1967S cites Baker 1942 C. 20.

Green gives '1950s-60s (Aus.)'. The source of Green's entry is not clear. It is not usual for Green to use the dating '1950s-60s' when Partridge is his source. This suggests Green took it from some other source, which I have not located.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Tassy: *slang* abbreviation of Tasmania: used as a nickname for Tasmanians, as Cornstalk for New South Welshmen, Crow-eaters for South Australians, Bananalanders for Queenslanders, and Cabbage-Gardeners for Victorians.

AND gives '**Tassie**, *n.* and *a.* Also **Tassey**, **Tassy**, **Tazzie**. [*f. Tas(mania* or *TAS(MANIAN* *n.* 1 and *a.* + -Y.] 1. Tasmania.' (1892). '2. A non-Aboriginal person native to or resident in Tasmania.' (1899). This is an Australian term.

Tea and tattle: *humorous slang* applied to afternoon teas.

There is no other evidence for this term.

(The term **tea and tattle** is in Baker 1941 and 1943 but not after 1943. EP gives **Tea and tattle** since 1925, cites Baker 1942.

Green gives [1920s+] Aust.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Ten, twelve, two and a quarter: this is the old formula for a man's rations on farms and stations – ten pounds of flour, twelve pounds of meat, two pounds of sugar, a quarter-pound of tea, and nothing else. Old bush song: 'The Old Bark Hut,'
'Ten pounds of flour, twelve pounds of meat, a little sugar and tea,
Is all they will allow you until the seventh day;
And if you are not sparing you'll go on a hungry gut:

That's one of the great misfortunes of the Old Bark Hut.' Men were engaged at so much per week and rations, and the system was full of abuses, masters buying any inferior flour, tea and sugar for ration puposes, while only the impotent rams and barren ewes and old stock in general were killed for meat. This system was one of the abuses that the Shearers' and other Bush Unions were organised to reform, and the ration scale is now more liberal, and the shearers' hut often (if the cook is good) has a first class table. The term and practice are both rapidly becoming obsolete.

AND gives '**ten, (ten,) two and a quarter**, a week's ration of food as issued to a hand by an employer on a rural property.' (1867).

All citation evidence is for ten pounds of meat, rather than twelve pounds of meat.

The phrase **ten, (ten,) two and a quarter** is Australian rather than **ten, twelve, two and a quarter**.

That tired feeling: *slang* anything or anybody with no 'go' or life, dead and alive, half hearted. Any movement that is not spontaneous or is dying out or is failing is said to have that tired feeling. Adapted from the patent cure-all medicine circulars and advertisements.

[Newspaper clipping 13.3.1897 attached to A:-

These are about all the ideas up to date, and suggest that loyalty is suffering badly from 'that tired feeling.']

This term is self evident.

There is no evidence that this term is Australian.

Tick-jambers: *shearing slang* the wool-pressers, that is, the men who pack and press wool into the bales or woolpacks. Obviously derived from the similarity to stuffing a mattress – the cover of a mattress is called a tick, the material from which it is made, ticking, and jamb is current slang for squeeze, stuff, or press. In Bulletin clip, 1.10.98.

[The newspaper clip referred to is not included.]

AND gives '**tick-jammer**. *Shearing*. Also **tick-jamber**. One who operates a wool press.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Tick-tacking: *sporting* signalling information from inside (the grandstand and ring), outside (flat or Leger), by various movements of the hands, head and arms. Obviously an adaptation from the ticking of the telegraphic machines.

[Newspaper clipping 24.11.1897 attached to A:-

In removing from the Randwick enclosure last Saturday those gentry of the 'mysterious movements,' known to the racing fraternity as the 'tick-tackers,' the A.J.C. executive seems to have exceeded its powers. However obnoxious these signallers may be to knowing owners, a tick-tacker has as much right to tap the top of his head with his racebook as the lordly owner has to doff his cady to the passing damsel of his acquaintance.]

OED gives '**tick-tack** v. 3. *trans.* and *intr.* To signal (information) by means of tick-tack telegraphy.' (1907). The citations in *OED* also refer to the race track. This term is not Australian.

Tinkettling: *bush and city custom* when a couple in the lower order of society get married, a favourable bit of horseplay is for their male friends, to assemble outside the house and bang tin-cans. A rude kind of serenade, for which they claim treat before desisting. A piece of pure larrikinism which has led to trouble on several occasions when the bride-groom has resented the serenade.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

10.6.1899: 'Tumble-Up': In answer to '6YH' (B., 20/5/'99). 'Tinkettling' originated in London, where the butchers' boys used to assemble in front of a house containing a marriage-party, with cleavers and marrow-bones wherewith to perform a sort of celebratory fantasia, in expectation of receiving a beer-money remuneration. The noise distantly resembled a peal of bells; but boys used to join in with pebbles in tin canisters, making a hideous din which would not now be for a moment allowed by the London police. The Tumbarumba tinkettling tragedy should have been the death-warrant of the silly practice in Australia. Writer was quite close to the lad Wolf when he fell mortally wounded.

17.6.1899: 'S. le W.': In reply to '6.Y.H.' (B. 29/5'99). Yes, they tin-kettle in the Southern States of America, especially among the 'cullud gemmem.')

OED gives '**tin-kettle** v., *trans.* to serenade roughly or opprobriously, also to cause (swarming bees) to settle, by beating a tin-kettle; whence tin-kettling *vbl. n.*; also **tin-kettly** a., like a tin-kettle.'

OED does not label this Austral.

DNZE has citations between 1874 and 1988 in S&O'B's sense.

Wilkes 1978 provides citations from '1875 A Boyd *Old Colonials*' which describes the event without naming it. Then he gives '**tin kettle, tin kettling**' 1898, 1892, 1898, 1900, 1931, 1950 and 1964.

Although this term was not picked up by Baker or Ramson, the evidence in *OED* suggests this term is Australasian, first recorded in New Zealand.

OED's evidence is:

1875 A. J. ELLIS tr. *Helmholtz' Sensations Tone* 119 Their quality of sound is.unmusical, bad, and tin-kettly.

[this citation is from an English translation of the German author H. von Helmholtz *On the sensations of tone as a physiological basis for the theory of music.*]

1881 A. BATHGATE *Waitaruna xvii*. 234, I was wakened by the din caused by a lot of the diggers tin-kettling the newly-married pair.

1892 B. BOAKE *Where Dead Men Lie* (1897) 103 What cheering and tin-kettling Had they after at the 'settling'.

1898 N. & Q. 9th Ser. I. 116/2 An inn-keeper was reported to have beaten his wife,...so [his neighbours] 'tin-kettled' him right royally.

1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 5 The diggers gave them a real good tinkettling in the old-fashioned style. *Ibid.* 20 We'd tin-kettle 'em [bees],...and..they'd settle on a branch.

All citations for this term after the German 1875 citation are from New Zealand and Australia.

This term is Australian.

Tin-pot: insignificant, no account, inferior, cheap. No doubt arising from the number of empty jam, preserve, milk, fish, and meat tins thrown about in Australian camps and towns – utterly valueless rubbish, till lately the chiffoniers have started burning them for the resulting tin and solder.

OED gives '**tin-pot** 4. *attrib.* Resembling or suggesting a tin pot in quality or sound; hence *contemptuously*, without solid worth, of inferior quality, shabby, poor, cheap.' (1838).

The origin suggested is unsound. The term does not originate from empty tins lying around.

This term is not Australian.

Toe-ragger: *slang* a person of no position, occupation, wealth, or attainments. Generally speaking, a 'waster' or 'off-sider.' *which see* Origin no doubt from old English navvy custom of rolling pieces of woollen cloth about the feet and ankles as a substitute for socks or stockings. Among navvies these toe-rags were nicknamed Prince Alberts, and toe-ragger was synonymous for the lowest and poorest of the navvy class. Imported to Australia by Peto and Brassys' navvies – or, as they were nicknamed, Pinchers or Thick-legs – who made the first Australian railway in the early Fifties. Compare with Morris.

[**Morris: Toe-ragger**, *n.* In the bush a term of abuse; though curiously in one or two parts of New South Wales the word 'toey,' which is derived from it, is a term of praise, a 'swell.' The word has been explained as of convict origin, that the rags were used to soothe the galling of fetters; but the explanation is not satisfactory, for the part galled by the irons would not be the toe, but the ankle. A writer in 'Truth' has cleared up the word (see quotation). It is of Maori origin. Away from Maoriland "toe-riger" had no meaning, and a false meaning and origin were given by the change of vowel.

1896. 'Truth' (Sydney), Jan 12:

"The bushie's favorite term of opprobrium 'a toe-ragger' is also probably from the Maori. Amongst whom the nastiest term of contempt was that of *tau rika rika*, or slave. The old whalers on the Maoriland coast in their anger called each other toe-riggers, and to-day the word in the form of toe-ragger has spread throughout the whole of the South-Seas."]

AND gives '**toe-ragger 1**. A tramp; a 'down-and-out'.' (1891).

AND gives '**toe-rag** Obs. [Used elsewhere but recorded earliest in Aust.].' '**1**. A strip of cloth wrapped round the foot and worn inside a boot, in place of a sock; see also PRINCE ALBERTS.' Also *attrib.* as an emblem of poverty or disreputableness.' (1865).

OED gives '**toe-rag 1**. A rag wrapped round the foot and worn inside a shoe, in place of a sock.' (1864) (This citation is in reference to a convict).

OED gives '**toe-rag 2** A tramp or vagrant; a despicable or worthless person. Also *attrib.*' (1875).

OED gives '**toe-rag** Hence **toe-ragger** Austral. slang = sense 2 above.' (1896).

This term is Australian.

The Maori derivation seems unlikely. Given the earlier use of the term **toe-rag** in standard English (1864) it seems more likely that S&O'B's derivation is correct.

Toke: *slang* bread: cake: food generally.

OED gives '**toke** *n.*¹ *slang*. (A piece of) bread; also *fig.* (see quot. 1967).' (1843).

This term is not Australian.

To kick: to object or disagree. 'I kicked against it, it was too strong,' colloquialism. A similarity to Biblical 'Kicking against the pricks.'

OED gives '**kick** *v*¹ I. 2. c. Phrases. **to kick against the pricks** (*spur, goad*): to strike the foot against such sharp-pointed or piercing weapons; also *fig.* to be recalcitrant to one's own hurt. **to kick over the traces**: (of a horse) to get a leg over the traces so as to kick more freely and vigorously; *fig.* to throw off the usual restraints.' (c1380).

This term is not Australian.

Toko: *slang* praise, flattery, blarney: synonymous with slang 'kid,' 'kokum,' 'taffy.' 'An Age (Melbourne) writer gives Bishop Goe 'toko' over the Anglican Church, this after a luncheon where the speakers vied in laying on the colors of panegyric.' Bulletin, 17.7.97.

The use in this quote seems to be ironical: apparently the writer dealt severely with the Bishop.

OED gives '**toco**² Chastisement, corporal punishment. Also *fig.* and in phr. **to get toco for yam**.' (1823).

The citation which S&O'B give can be read with the standard sense ie. chastise.

There is no other Australian evidence for the opposite sense given by S&O'B.

(The term **toko** is in Baker 1941 and 1943. Baker gives 'toko – praise, flattery, exaggerated adulation.' The term is not in Baker after 1943.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942, notes that **toko** is the opposite in meaning to Brit. **toco** – 'chastisement'.

Green gives '**toko** – (Aust.) praise, esp. if 'laid on with a trowel.'

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Tomahawk: a small axe or hatchet.

Morris says: 'a word of American origin,' but gives no quote or authority. I am inclined to think that the word is a corruption of tommy-hook, similar to bill-hook – an old English scrub-axe or weapon. The guess is interesting, any way. There is also jack-knife.

AND gives '**tomahawk** [Transf. use of *tomahawk* the axe of the North American Indian.] A hatchet; the stone hatchet of the Aborigines.' (1808).

S&O'B's suggested origin is unlikely. The transferred use of the American tomahawk appears to be sound.

The term **tomahawk** is Australian.

There is no evidence for **tommy hook**.

OED gives '**bill hook** A heavy thick knife or chopper with a hooked end, used for pruning, cutting brushwood, etc.'

OED gives '**Jack knife 1**. A large clasp-knife for the pocket.'

The terms **bill hook** and **jack knife** are not Australian.

Tomahawk: *shearing slang* a good shearer will shear a sheep evenly, leaving no cuts in the skin nor tracks of the shear-cuts in the wool, leaving the smallest particle of wool on the sheep. A bad shearer will tomahawk his sheep, i.e. cut them irregularly, leaving steps or ridges of wool on the sheep, appearing as if the fleece had been chopped off. Bad barbers leave the same appearance on a man's head – steps or marks showing each blow of the scissors.

AND gives **tomahawk**, v. '*Shearing*. Also **tommyhawk**. ... *trans.* To shear (a sheep) roughly.' (1859).

This term is Australian.

Tommy, Tommy-shop, Tommy-rot: B&L give – *tomadh toma* Keltic, a lump of bread.

Tommy synonymous with tucker, grub, toke, as slang for food.

[B gives: tomah as spelling instead of tomadh.]

OED gives '**Tommy** ¹ **6. tommy-rot**, nonsense, bosh, twaddle; hence **tommyrotic** a. [after *erotic*], (1884).

This term is not Australian.

OED gives '**Tommy**' ¹. **2. b.** Goods; esp. provisions supplied to workmen under the truck system; also, short for *tommy-shop*, and for the truck system.' (1830).

OED gives '**Tommy**' ¹ **6. attrib.** and *Comb* **tommy-shop**, a store (esp. one run by the employer) at which vouchers given to employees instead of money wages may be exchanged for goods; a truck-shop; also *attrib.*;' (1830).

OED gives '**Tommy**' ¹ **2. a.** 'A soldiers' name for the brown bread formerly supplied as rations (also **brown tommy**); with *a* and *pl.*, a loaf of bread (*dial.*); among workmen, Food, provisions generally, esp. those carried with them to work each day. **soft tommy**, **white tommy**: see quot. 1796.' (1783).

B&L give '**Tommy** (popular), bread, food. The usual name for food amongst navvies. Probably from Irish *tiomallain*, I eat.'

These terms are not Australian.

There are two separate entries in the material.

Tommy Dodd: *slang* a very small glass of beer or ale. The long beer generally contains about three quarters of a pint, a Tommy Dodd about one quarter of a pint. Six Tommy Dodds can be filled from the reputed quart bottle of English ale: one dozen of reputed quarts equals two gallons.

There is no other evidence for this sense of the term **tommy dodd**.

(The term **tommy dodd** is in Baker 1941 only.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1941 & 1942.

DNZE gives two citations, Baker & EP.

Green gives '(Aus/NZ) a small glass of beer'.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Tommy-rot: nonsense, persiflage. Tommy is an old navvy's name for food: the stores under the old truck system were known as Tommy-shops. Rotten Tommy would be bad or poor food.

See entry above for **Tommy**.

Tooth-powder - Carrington: Lord Carrington was Governor of New South Wales during the late Eighties and early Nineties.

[Newspaper clipping August 1897, Red Page, attached to A:-

Flour - 'Carrington tooth-powder.' I have heard only recently on Castlereagh and Barwon Rivers, N.S.W. eg: A traveller, on getting a very small pint of flour, remarked to his mate, 'This is another Carrington Tooth-powder station.']

There is no other evidence for this phrase.

Tote: an abbreviation of totalisator, the mutual betting machine which divides all stakes less a commission among the backers of the winning horse. The betting machine.

Tote is more particularly applied to shops or places which carry out this system in defiance of the law.

[Newspaper clippings attached to A:-

27.3.1897: The question is often asked by the ordinary Sydney citizen – 'Why are the totes permitted to do business so openly, seeing it is illegal?' Perhaps it would be worth Inspector-General Fosbery's while taking a walk along Pitt or King streets, for he would daily see policemen in uniform and plainclothes detectives choosing their doubles and backing their fancies.

22.5.1897 Roundly and widely declared in Melbourne that the real pushers of 'tote' legislation are the big, solid bookmakers of the Alf Josephs type: that a ring exists among the small men to offer immensely long odds to a greedy public on a horse they have stiffened, thus making cupidity grab at the shadow of a shade and turning aside money that would be legitimately laid on 'form' or even 'fancy'; that the big honest men find it difficult, therefore, to average a good 'book' all year round; that the big men, therefore, being, so to speak, outflanked, seek 'tote'-legislation, so that they can lay and pay 'tote-prices.' The 'tote,' on its principle of percentage, must always win, the honest bookmaker must mathematically calculate up probabilities, and pay up to the last cent if an improbability gets home on him, if he has to sell his shirt to do it.

25.3.1899 The famous 'Wren's tote' in Johnston-street, Collingwood (Melb.), was again raided by the police the other day, with but very little more success than usual. There are ten ways of getting into the notorious tote-shop, but the easiest one is barred by about eight strong doors, and as the customer is taken in by instalments, the last being locked before the next one is opened, seven of them are always fastened. Also, there are about 60 ways out of it. This time the force rushed the place via an adjacent tea-shop, and hewed their way in with axes, but meanwhile the customers were pouring like rain over adjacent roofs, down trap-doors and chimneys, and through secret passages and cellars, and only four arrests were made after all – three suspected tote-conductors and a customer who is always at the tail end of the retreat. They all got out on light bail, and the famous tote will go on as usual. Attorney-General Isaacs is understood to be desperately anxious to suppress it; but he has met with no success worth mentioning to date.]

AND gives '**tote** [Used elsewhere but first recorded in Aust.]' (1890).

AND gives '**tote 2**. Special Comb. **tote shop**, an illegal betting establishment.' (1894).

The citations in AND for **tote** do not distinguish between **1** the legal totalisator and **2** The illegal betting establishment.

This term is Australian.

Tothersiders: Westralian nickname for people coming from New South Wales and Victoria to Westralia.

AND gives '**tothersider** 1. W.A. A person from an eastern State; OTHERSIDER.' (1872).
This term is Australian.

Towing: *bicycle slang* equivalent to pacing. When one rider makes the pace for another whom he wants to win he is said to be towing him along.

OED gives '**tow** *n.*⁴ 2. *b. fig.*, esp. **to take in tow**, to take under one's guidance or patronage; to take charge of; **in tow** (*with*) in extended sense: in company (with), accompanying, following.' (1722).

The sense in OED can be easily extended to the above sense.

This term is not Australian.

Tozer: [No entry under this heading.]

[Newspaper clipping 19.?.1898 attached to A:-

This from the politician whose name has been so often associated with large, airy – well, say, exaggerations – that the Q. vernacular has a new phrase – 'That's a Tozer!']

AND gives '**Tozer** *B. n.* A statement which is inaccurate or untrue. Also *attrib.* and as **Tozerism**.' (1898).

This term is Australian.

Sir Horace Tozer was a Queensland Non-Labor Politician during the 1890s. At different times he was the home secretary and the acting Premier.

Traveller: any passing bushman or swagman. On many stations there is what is known as the travellers' hut, a hut for the accommodation of swagmen.
See Morris's quotes.

AND gives '**traveller** 1. One who journeys through the country (in search of work); SWAGMAN *a.*' (1845).

This term is Australian.

AND gives '**traveller** 2. In special collocations: ... hut, a dwelling provided on a rural property for the accommodation of travellers.' (1868).

This term is Australian.

Travelling for Riley Brothers: *slang* – west New South Wales 'carrying your swag.' Swagging. Appears in Bulletin, 14.2.99. Riley Brothers, a firm of Sydney softgoods men, at one time made a speciality of forwarding £2 and £5 bales of drapery to farmers, selectors etc in the backblocks. These assorted bales contained blankets, prints, calicoes, tweeds, etc at the option of purchaser. A traveller's swag, from containing blankets and clothing, makes the analogy

perfect – swagmen are often called commercial travellers – so a swagman 'travelling for Riley Brothers.' The swag is also known as the drum, and the Colonial nickname for commercial travellers is 'drummers.'

There is no other evidence for this term.

Tribute: *mining* a system by which a party contracts to do all the necessary work of a mine for the metal won, paying the original owners a tribute, i.e. a proportion of the metal won.

OED gives '**tribute** *n.* 3. In *Mining* (originally in the tin-mining of Cornwall; now in general use). **a.** The proportion of the value of the ore raised, paid by the miners to the owners or lessors of the land or their representatives.' (1855).

This term is not Australian.

Tributors: men working on tribute, as distinct from wages men or piece workers.

OED gives '**tributor, tributer** 3. *Mining.* A miner who works 'on tribute'.' (1778).

This term is not Australian.

Trooper: the mounted police. Also black troopers, who are mostly black trackers.

AND gives '**trooper** *Hist.* [Transf. use of *trooper* a cavalry soldier.] A mounted police officer; *police trooper*.' (1803).

This term is Australian.

Tucker: *slang* food, board. '1 pound a week and your tucker' is current, i.e. 1 pound a week with board and lodgings.

Tuck in – *schoolboy slang* means a good feed or gorge, a regular blow-out: from this no doubt 'tucker' is derived.

[Newspaper clipping, July 1898, Red Page? attached to A:-

Sprat: In N. America a kind of native bread grown in the ground is called 'tuckahoe' by the Indians (vide Stormouth's Dic). This origin of the Australian tucker seems feasible.]

AND gives '**tucker**, *n.*¹ [f. Br. slang *tuck* to consume (food or drink): see OED v.1 10.] **1.b.** Food.' (1850).

This term is Australian.

S&O'Bs derivation appears to be correct, unlike the derivation supplied in the newspaper clipping. See below.

OED gives '**tucker**, *n.*¹ **6.** [f. TUCK *n.*¹ 6 or v.¹ 10.] The daily supply of food of a gold-digger or station-hand; rations, meals; also, food generally, victuals: = TUCK *n.*¹ **6b.** **to earn** or **make one's tucker**, to earn merely enough to pay for one's keep. *Austral. and N.Z. slang.*' (1858).

OED gives '**tuck** *n.*¹ **6. a. slang.** Usually **tuck-out** (also **tuck-in**): A hearty meal; esp. in school use, a feast of delicacies, a 'blow-out'.' (1823).

Twang: *Queensland and New South Wales bush slang* opium. In Bulletin clip, 1.10.98.

AND gives '**twang** Opium.' (1898).

This term is Australian.

Twicer: *slang* a two-faced person, one who breaks his promises or pledges. Also a sycophant or parasite. A person who cannot be relied upon to be honourable or straight.

AND gives **twicer 2.** 'One who engages in double dealing.' (1879) This sense is transferred from the former meaning 'One who has been convicted of criminal offence twice.'

This term is Australian.

Two-ales: a drink composed of half Colonial beer and half imported English ale.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Two-up: *slang* the game of pitch-and-toss; played by spinning two coins in the air off a piece of stick (the kip.)

Pennies are generally used, and the bets are laid as to the showing of either two heads or two tails when the coins are at rest on the ground. The only fraud possible in the game is the substitution of either a two-headed or two-tailed penny – a trick known as 'ringing in' a 'nob' or a 'gray.'

[Newspaper clipping 20.5.1899 attached to A:-

Nine of the talent were roped-in at Auckland (M.L.) lately for playing an illegal game – 'two-up,' the orthodox 'kip' (piece of wood) and two coppers being used.

'Kip' was produced in evidence, but the beak discharged the surprised crowd on the ground that a piece of wood wasn't a gambling instrument?]

[This is the newspaper article identified as being from the *Bulletin* in the entry for **talent**.]

AND gives '**two-up** **A. n.** A gambling game in which two coins are tossed in the air and bets laid as to whether both will fall heads or tails upermost.' (1884).

Moore gives **two-up** (1854).

This term is Australian.

Two-up school: a school, a gambling room: from the game of pitch-and-toss, known as two-up. School is applied to any gambling assembly: hazard school: poker school: two-up school.

AND gives '**two-up** **2.** Special Comb. **school**, a group of persons who have assembled to play two-up; the place where such an assemblage is regularly held.' (1897).

This term is Australian.

Tyson: Tyson was one of the largest squatters in Australia, and at his death left an estate of several millions, mostly accumulated from cattle-raising.

AND gives '**Tyson** The name of James *Tyson* (1819-1898), rural land-holder, used allusively as the type of richness, parsimony, or enterprise.' (1877).

This term is Australian.

U

Umpcha: *sporting and thieves* a fool, a flat, a mug, in fact, a chump – of which word 'umpcha' is a crooked back spelling.

There is no other evidence for this term.

Under the vag: *push and thieves* an abbreviation of 'under the Vagrancy Act,' a law which the police take advantage by a charge of 'no lawful visible means of support' to arrest and detain criminals against whom they have further charges to perfect.

AND gives '**Vag**, *n.* and *a.* [U.S., abbrev. of vagrant or vagrancy: see OEDS.]' '2. *a.* Vagrancy, esp. in the phr. **on** (or **under**) **the vag**, on a charge of vagrancy.' (1877).

Matsell gives '**Vag** Vagrant. "Done on the vag," committed for vagrancy.'

Matsell provides evidence of American use before any Australian use. There is no evidence to suggest this term was used first or predominantly in Australia.

OED provides citations from America, Australia and Canada.

OED gives '**vag** *n.* ² *Austral. and N. Amer. slang* abbrev. of *a. vagrant n. b. vagrancy* Phr. **on the vag**, on a charge of vagrancy.'

The first two citations, 1859 **done on the vag** and 1868 **vags** are U.S. These citations are followed by an 1877 Canadian citation which gives **on the vag**. The 1919 Australian citation gives **vag** (V. Marshall). The last citation is 1931 **pulled for a vag** U.S.

The first Australian citation is in 1919, from Vance Marshall, who, as Jice Doone, wrote *Timely tips for new Australians* in 1926. This publication includes a glossary of Australian words, phrases and expressions.

Vag and **on the vag** are not Australian.

There is some evidence to suggest Australian use of the phrase **under the vag**. There are three citations for **under the vag**. The first is in *Truth* (Sydney) (1891), the second is in *Truth* (Sydney) (1903) and the third is Cusack's *Come in Spinner* (1951).

This evidence suggests S&O'B are correct that the Australian derivative is **under the vag**.

Union ticket: *bush* a ticket issued to its members by the Bush Unions – The Shearers and General Labourers' Unions etc. These tickets are a kind of pass which admit the bearer to the benefits of the Union in any quarter where other members are either camped or working. Working or travelling on the Union ticket means that the bearer is only associating or working with Union men and demands the rate of wages fixed by the Union.

OED gives '**union** *n.* ¹ **11.c.union ticket** (1891).'

This term is not Australian.

V

Village settlement: Morris

[**Morris: Village Settlement**, the system, first adopted in New Zealand, whence it spread to the other colonies, of settling families on the land in combination. The Government usually helps at first with a grant of money as well as granting the land.]

AND gives '**village. 1.** A small (rural) settlement. **3.** Special Comb. **settlement.** **(a)** VILLAGE 1; **(b)** a government-sponsored co-operative farming community.' (1840).

This term is Australian.

W

Waddy: Morris

[**Morris: Waddy.** (1) An aboriginal's war club. But the word is used for wood generally, even for firewood.

(2) The word is sometimes used for a walking stick.

Waddy, *v. trans.* to strike with a waddy.]

1. *AND* gives **waddy** *n.* ¹ 'Also **waddi**, **waddie**, **wody**, **woodah**. [a. Dharuk *wadi* a tree, a stick of wood, a wooden weapon.] 1. a. An aboriginal war-club; a piece of wood used as a club.' (1790).

2. *AND* gives '**waddy** *n.* ¹ 2.a. A club or cudgel as used by a person other than an aboriginal; a piece of wood used as a weapon.' (1809).

AND does not give the term **waddy** in the sense of a walking stick, but does give the verb 'to strike, beat, or kill (an animal or person) with a waddy.'

The verb given by Morris is Australian.

Waiter: *sporting slang* a horse started in a race without any intention of winning: waiting for a more favourable or profitable handicap or event: perhaps running to deceive the handicapper and public as to his real merit, so that less weight may be allotted to him or more favourable betting odds obtained.

OED gives '**waiter** II. 4. a. One who waits expectant of some event, opportunity, appointed time, etc.' (1655 to 1900).

The Barracker's Bible 1983 gives '**waiter** A shunted horse, one deliberately held back, worked into a pocket.' The independent evidence in the *Barracker's Bible* suggests the term may have been current for a long period. In this sense it appears the term may have been used in Australia.

(The term **waiter** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945. Baker cited Stephens & O'Brien in 1945 but he did not use the term after 1945.

EP 1967S cites Baker 1942.

It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Walking ticket: *slang* synonymous with dismissal or the sack, which see.

OED gives '**walking** *vbl. n.* ¹ 4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, b. Special comb.: **walking-ticket** U.S. = *walking-orders*' (1829).

John Bartlett in *The Dictionary of Americanisms* (1849) gives '**walking ticket** Orders to leave; a dismissal.'

The term is U.S. not Australian.

Wallaby track: Morris

[**Morris: Wallaby track**, **On the**, or **On the Wallaby**, or **Out on the Wallaby**, or simply **Wallaby**, as *adj.* [slang]. Tramping the country on foot, looking for work. Often in the bush the only perceptible tracks, and sometimes the only tracks by which the scrub can be penetrated, are the tracks worn down by the *Wallaby*, as a hare tramples its "form." These tracks may lead to water or they may be aimless and rambling. Thus the man "*on the wallaby*" may be looking for food or for work, or aimlessly wandering by day and getting food and shelter as a *Sundowner* (q.v.) at night.]

1. **On the Wallaby track** *AND* gives **wallaby** '2. a. WALLABY TRACK, esp. in the phr. **on the wallaby**.' (1867).

This phrase is Australian.

2. **On the Wallaby** *AND* gives **wallaby** '2. b. *transf.* and *fig.* The 'circuit'; **on the wallaby**, on the move.' (1887).

This phrase is Australian.

3. **Out on the Wallaby**. This phrase does not appear in *AND* but there is evidence of the use of **out on the wallaby**. See examples below:

H. Lawson's *While the Billy Boils*, (1896).

'during which time it is popularly believed in some parts of Maoriland that the south-easter is most likely to be **out on the wallaby** and the weather bad.'

H. Lawson's *When I Was King* (1905).

'I am **out on the wallaby** humping my drum,

And I came by the tracks where the sundowners come.'

H. Lawson's *In the Days when the World was Wide* (1912).

'I think we had some good old times

Out on the wallaby.

I took a wife and left off rum,

An' camped beneath a roof;

But Bill preferred to hump his drum.'

A.B. Paterson's *Saltbush Bill J.P. and Other Verses* (1917).

'The Israelite horde went roaming abroad

Like so many sundowners **out on the wallaby**.'

This phrase is Australian.

4. **Wallaby** *AND* gives '**wallaby track**1. The path worn by a wallaby.' (1849).

AND gives '**wallaby** 3. An itinerant rural worker; SWAGMAN a. Also *attrib.*' (1869).

This term is Australian in both senses.

Waltzing Matilda: *bush slang* a variant of carrying a swag or swagging, which see.

[Newspaper clipping 17.7.1897, Red Page, attached to A:-?

The origin of this lies no doubt in some lonely bushman's association of his partner-swig with the female partner that he longs for. A swag has a suggestion of a dummy female figure; and not long ago 'Bulletin' correspondents pointed out that a Dutch 'wife' was a bolster – a similar long, rotund object. And I have known one old tramper to carry the parallel so far that he strapped his swag in at the middle for a waist, and coaxed a little bit of clothing to stick out at the end for a head, and found (doubtless) a lot of comfort in the companionship. Having got 'Matilda' – a typical name for the sex in comic-song country – 'waltzing' comes easily from the idea of continual motion – often a circle of stations. – X.X.X.]

AND gives '**Matilda** 2. In the phr. **to waltz matilda**, to carry one's swag; to travel the road. also *fig.*' (1893).

OED gives '**Matilda** *n.* *Austral. slang.* .1. = SWAG *n.* 10. **to walk** (also **waltz**) **Matilda**: to carry a swag, to travel the road.' (1892).

OED gives '**waltz** *v.* *d. trans.* To transport or convey (something). *U.S. joc.*' (1884).

The term **matilda**, used as a synonym for **swag**, was used earlier than the phrase **to waltz matilda**. The early uses of the phrase were from the *Bulletin* and A.B. Paterson (*Bulletin* writer.). The American sense of **waltz**, meaning to transport, is the likely origin. This is more straightforward than S&O'B's origin. This term is Australian.

War Cry: [no entry]

[Newspaper clipping, August 1897, Red Page, attached to A:-

Long glass of beer – 'War Cry.' Common in western N.S.W. and Q. Used since the Salvation Army has come into the bush.]

EP gives '**war cry** a mixture of *Stout & mild* ale, Ware derives it from War Cry, the periodical of the Salvation Army, which 'spoke stoutly and ever [?] used mild terms.' (1882 to ca. 86.)

Green gives '**war cry** [late 19c] a mixture of stout and mild ale. [a satire on the Salvation Army newspaper *The War Cry* and the belief that while the Army spoke 'stoutly' it used only 'mild' terms]; he asserts the term is British.' Partridge took the term from the English author J. Redding Ware not S&O'B. This term is not Australian.

Warrigal: Morris

[**Morris:** **Warrigal**, *n.* and *adj.* an aboriginal word, originally meaning a *Dog*. Afterwards extended as an adjective to mean *wild*; then used for a *wild horse*, *wild natives*, and in bush-slang for a *worthless man*.]

1. As an aboriginal word meaning 'dog', *AND* gives **warrigal** from *Dharuk* '**A. n. 1.** Dingo.' (1790).
 2. As the adjective 'wild' referred to by Morris *AND* gives '**warrigal B adj. 2.** Wild; untamed.' (1881).
 3. As a 'wild horse' *AND* gives '**warrigal A. n. 4.** A wild or untamed horse. (1881).
 4. As a term to describe 'wild natives' *AND* gives '**warrigal A. 2. myall n.¹ 2.**' (1847) 'an aboriginal living in a traditional manner.' (esp. as distinct from one accustomed to, or living amongst, whites.).
 5. The sense of a 'worthless man' is covered by *AND* '**warrigal B adj. 2.** Wild; untamed.' (1881). The citations for this sense refer to anything wild, be it animal, plant or man, as a warrigal. This sense is not exactly a worthless person as Morris describes.
- This term is Australian in all senses.

Washdirt: Morris.

[**Morris: Washdirt**, *n.* any alluvial deposit from which gold is obtained by washing; or "the auriferous gravel, sand, clay, or cement, in which the greatest proportion of gold is found." (Brough Smyth's 'Glossary,' 1869.) Often called *dirt* (q.v.).]

OED gives '**wash-dirt Mining.** Auriferous soil or gravel to be submitted to washing.' (1862). The first citation is from Otago.

Mathews gives **wash-dirt** U.S. (1852).

Moore gives **wash-dirt** (1856).

This term was used on the Australian goldfields. The earliest Australian citation is 1856. The term was used in Australia and New Zealand, originating in America.

Waster: slang any person, horse, or thing of inferior quality – useless and of no value – is a waster. Sawyers and timber-getters call knotty, hollow, or rotten logs or flitches wasters.

OED gives '**waster n.¹ 1. a.** One who lives in idleness and extravagance; one who wastefully dissipates or consumes his resources, an extravagant spender, a squanderer, spendthrift. Now chiefly *dial.*, with some notion of sense 6, a worthless person, 'ne'er-do-well'.' (1352).

OED gives '**waster n.¹ 6. b.** An animal, bird, etc. which is not good enough to be kept for breeding purposes.' (a1722).

OED's entries confirm that this is a general term applied to anything of inferior quality.

This term is not Australian.

Water-bag: *bush slang* a teetotaller or temperance advocate.

One who preaches teetotalism or temperance. A compound of wind bag (orator) and water-bag.

The water-bag is a utensil made of canvas, used either for keeping water cool or carrying it on journeys. A Good Templar or teetotaller would by analogy be a 'water-bag.'

1. There is no other evidence for the first sense, 'a teetotaller'.

2. *AND* gives '**water bag**. [Spec. use of water-bag a bag of skin or leather used for holding or carrying water.] A canvas bag used to carry water whilst travelling.' (1879).

The second sense of the term **water bag** is Australian.

(The term **Water bag** as a person is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1959. It seems likely that Baker 1941 derives from S&O'B.)

Wattle and dab: Morris.

[**Morris: Wattle-and-Dab**, a rough mode of architecture, very common in Australia at an early date. The phrase and its meaning are Old English. It was originally *Wattle-and-daub*. The style, but not the word, is described in the quotation from Governor Phillip, 1789.]

[In a separate entry for Wattle, Morris explains that this type of building is the route for the common name of the Acacia i.e. Wattle.]

OED gives '**daub** *n.*¹ 1. Material for daubing walls, etc.; plaster, rough mortar; clay or mud mixed with stubble or chaff, used with laths or wattle to form the walls of cottages, huts, etc. Hence *wattle and daub* (also *dab*).' (1446). This term is not Australian.

Weed: *slang* common nickname for tobacco.

OED gives '**weed** *n.*¹ 3. *spec. a.* Tobacco.' (1606). This term is not Australian.

Weigh out: *slang* to pay out or pay over money: sometimes weigh in: obviously of racecourse origin. 'To weigh out (or weigh in) alright' is to pay up in full.

OED gives '**weigh**, *v.*¹ 7. *d.* In *Horse-racing*. **to weigh out, in:** to take the weight of (a jockey) respectively before and after a race. (Cf. 9.)' (1890). There is no evidence of S&O'B's extended sense of the term.

Well in: Morris.

[**Morris: Well-in**, *adj.* answering to 'well off,' 'well to do,' 'wealthy'; and ordinarily used, in Australia, instead of these expressions.]

AND gives '**well-in**, a. Affluent, well-to-do.' (1845).

This term is Australian.

Westralia: *journalese and vernacular* an abbreviation of Western Australia.

[Newspaper clipping 16.1.1897 attached to A:-

Brisbane (Q.) Telegraph complains that the term 'Westralia' is 'newspaper patois.' Yes; it is Bulletinese. And it is 'going to stick,' just as 'Maoriland' has done for the islands awkwardly christened 'New Zealand,' and as 'province' has done in place of the Hinglish grotesquerie, 'colony.']

AND gives '**Westralia**. Shortened form of 'Western Australia'.' (1893).

This term is Australian.

Wet wicket: from the common cricket excuse of 'a wet wicket caused our downfall.' A drunken man is said to have been playing on a wet wicket.

OED gives '**sticky**, a.² 1. c. *Racing and Cricket*. Of a course, a wicket: Having a yielding surface owing to wet. Also *fig.*, esp. in phr. **to bat** (or **be**) **on a sticky wicket**: to contend with great difficulties (*colloq.*).' (1882).

This appears to be a form of 'sticky wicket'.

There is no other evidence for the term **wet wicket**.

Whalers: 1. Fresh-water fishermen on the Darling and Murray River system. Adelaide receives a large supply of Murray cod from these fishermen. They also in some cases eke out by cutting wood for the river steamers and casual work on stations, farms or vineyards:

2. loafers or sundowners who frequent the Murray, Darling, and Murrumbidgee Rivers and their branches. This class fish sometimes, but more often subsist by cadging at the towns and houses along the rivers:

3. by transference to any bush cadger or loafer travelling on the never.

[Newspaper clipping 18.9.1897 attached to A:-

The Reid Govt., dragging desperately for odd ha'pence, has begun to collect a 1 pound licence fee from all 'whalers' along the western rivers who fish from boats. There probably is not a class in all Australia who see less cash than these poor beggars, and the only consolation is that the licence fee will take even more chasing than the ...]

1. *AND* gives '**whaler** *n.* ¹ a. A swagman whose route follows the course of a river.' (1878).

AND gives '**whaler** *n.* ¹ b. *spec.*, as Darling, Murray, Murrumbidgee **whaler**.' (1894).

This sense is Australian.

2. *AND* gives '**whaler** *n.* 1 a A swagman whose route follows the course of a river.' (1878). The citations confirm the name came from the swagmen's use of fish to supplement their diet. But there is no reference to cadging or **whalers** being referred to as loafers.

This sense is Australian.

3. There is no evidence of this term being transferred to other swagmen travelling on the never.

Where does it hurt most?: an ironical expression of sympathy.

There is no other evidence for this term, but its meaning is self-evident.

Whipping the cat: *Aust* penitence, remorse, on the stool of repentance. When a man after a debauch swears off and regrets money, time, or work wasted, he is said to be whipping the cat.

AND gives '**whip** *v.* [Transf. use of Br. dial. and colloq. *to whip the cat*, used in various senses: see OED(S *v.* 16 a.) In the phr. **to whip the cat**, to suffer remorse; to complain; to 'cry over spilled milk'.' (1847).

This term is Australian.

Whisperer: *Aust* casual racecourse tipsters who, under pretence of great secrecy, whisper the name of a horse, expecting to get a commission on the winnings. The whisperer generally gives every horse in the race to separate clients, and so makes sure of receiving something. Generally – a borrower or lug-biter.

1. *AND* gives '**whisperer**. A racecourse tipster.' (1914).

This term is Australian.

It seems likely that the term **whisperer** was used before 1914 as this entry appears in the first draft of the material. As described in Chapter 3, this draft appears to have been compiled about 1900.

2. There is no other evidence of the term being used in the general sense of a borrower.

White ants: *bush slang* silliness, madness. Any person of weak intellect or peculiar in their manner as if insane is said to have 'white ants.' From the ravages that white ants make inside timber: synonymous with 'rats in garret' which see.

[Newspaper clipping 24.11.1897 attached to A:-

There one constantly hears such expressions as 'looney,' 'balmy,' 'ratty,' 'moon-struck,' and 'feather-head' [brother of 'leather-'ead'] interspersed with 'white-ants,' 'centipedes,' and 'snakes.']

AND gives '**white ant** *n.* [Fig. use of *white ant* termite.] **1.** Used of a person's failing sanity or intelligence, as if white ants were the agents of its attrition. Esp. in the phr. **to have white ants**, to be eccentric or 'dotty'.' (1908). This term is Australian.

White mice: *thieves* gulls, victims, fools. 'Don't you take me for a white mouse,' remarked a girl whom a fellow was trying to mash – or charm.

OED gives '**white mouse** *a. n.* **6c.** figurative sense—a person of mean or despicable character.' (1850). There is no other evidence for the S&O'B sense.

Who stoled your scone: [there is no entry for this.]

There is no other evidence for this term.

Willing: *slang* combative, pugnacious. 'A pretty willing cove' would be one who would as soon fight as not.

AND gives '**willing**, *a.* [Spec. use of *willing* without reluctance.] Vigorous; aggressive. Freq. in the collocation **willing go**, a vigorous contest.' (1899). This term is Australian.

Willing go: *pugilistic slang* a genuine fight, in which both combatants exert all their strength, skill, and energy to win and administer to each other unlimited punishment.

AND gives **willing** *a.* 'Freq. in the collocation **willing go** a vigorous contest.' (1899). This term is Australian.

Willy-willy: Morris.

[Morris: **Willy Willy**, *n.* native name for a storm on North-west of Australia.]

AND gives **willy willy**. 'Chiefly *n.w. Aust.* [a. Yinjibarndi *wili wili*.] 1. A whirlwind.' (1894).

This term is Australian.

Windmill J. P.: Morris.

[**Morris: Windmill J.P.**, expression formerly used in New South Wales for any J.P. who was ill-educated and supposed to sign his name with a cross x.]

AND gives '**Windmill Magistrate** Obs. See quot. 1869.'

1869 J. MARTINEAU *Lett. from Aust.* ... 'I should explain that there have been persons aspiring .. to the honour of being magistrates whose early education was not being able to sign their names, were in the habit of affixing their mark X instead. The supposed resemblance of this mark to the sails of a windmill suggested the term.' (1869 and 1918).

This term had limited use during the early colonial period. According to the *Bulletin*, (the 1918 citation) Parkes was generous with his 'creation of Jay Pees' many of whom could not write. Although there is very little evidence for this term, it appears to have been current during the early years of the colonies and the Federation period.

Winkers: *Aust* Horsetraylian slang for spectacles: also giglamps, four-eyes.

OED gives '**winker** ¹ 3b. spectacles.' (1816).

OED gives '**gig lamp** 2. *pl.* Spectacles. *slang.*' (1853).

OED gives '**four** *a.* and *n.* 2.c. **four eyes** a man or woman who habitually wears spectacles.' (1874).

This term is not Australian.

Wire in: *bush slang* 1. An invitation to sit down and eat, 'Come on, wire in.'

2. To 'rush' your work, getting over it quickly.

3. To take to an opponent and give him a thrashing.

Generally, encouragement to come on and do your best.

OED gives '**wire** *v.* 7.. *intr.* **to wire in** (rarely **away**), to get to work with a will, to apply oneself energetically to something; **to wire into** (a meal, etc.), to set about it with avidity. *colloq.* or *slang.*

Origin uncertain; cf. quot. 1870 and *Slang Dict.*, 1874, where it is said that the orig. phr. is 'wire in and get your name up', an invitation to enter the ring for a contest.'

1. The first citation in OED is 1894.

This sense is not Australian.

2. The first citation in OED in this sense is 1865.

This sense is not Australian.

3. *OED* 1870.

This sense is not Australian.

(The term **wire** is in Baker 1941, 1943 and 1945. Baker gives **wire** 'a reprimand'. It seems unlikely Baker took the term from S&O'B.)

Wood and water joey: in Australian country places, wood and fuel and household water has often to be cut or drawn at a distance from the house. A wood and water joey is a servant similar to an English ostler or hotel man-servant. Wood when drawn is in logs, and has to be broken up for use. Even where water is convenient there is often no system of reticulation, and horse-troughs, baths, kitchen tanks etc have to be filled by the men-servants. Handy man would be about the English equivalent.

AND gives '**wood-and-water joey**. [f. *wood-and-water*, in allusion to 'hewers of wood and drawers of water' (*Josh*.ix. 21) + *Joey* *n.* ² 2.] a. An unskilled labourer who performs the menial tasks of an establishment; *USEFUL*.' (1882). This term is Australian.

Working points: *slang* living by your wits, living without work on whatever you can make. Generally, taking advantage (or points) off every person you can, whether in business, sport, or politics.

See the entry for **points**.

Working the oracle: bringing political or religious influence to bear in an underhand or secret way so as to secure some appointment or contract.

[Newspaper clipping 20.2.1897 attached to A:-

Dear Bulletin, - If you want to 'work the oracle' in the Q. Civil Service just now, get the loan of a Labor M.P. Especially so in any department under the Ministerial control of Home-Secretary Tozer. It's more than half the battle. Ask anyone in the Govt. Printing Office. Ask also in the railways, which are under 'Bob' Philip and Commissioner 'Bob' Gray. Ain't it curious, though? - Yours, Ux (Brisbane).]

OED gives '**oracle** *n.* 1. **b.** *allusively* (chiefly *Brit. colloq.*). **to work the oracle:** to influence the agency or medium; to obtain an utterance in one's favour; to manipulate a situation to obtain a desired result. In early use also: to raise money.' (1823).

This term is not Australian.

Both texts A & B end at this point.

Y

Yabber: Morris.

[**Morris: Yabber**, *n.* Used for the talk of the aborigines. Some think it is the English word jabber, with the first letter pronounced as in German; but it is pronounced by the aborigines *yabba*, without a final *r*. *Ya* is an aboriginal stem, meaning to speak: in the Wiradhuri, *yarra*.]

AND gives '**yabber** Orig. *Austral. pidgin*. Also *yabba*. [Prob. a. Wuywurung *yaba*.] *n.* 1. Talk; conversation; discussion; language.' (1841).
This term is Australian.

Yacker: Morris.

[**Morris: Yakka**, *v.* frequently used in Queensland bush-towns. "You yacka wood? Mine, give 'im tixpence;"—a sentence often uttered by housewives. It is given by the Rev. W. Ridley, in his '*Kámilarói, and other Australian Languages*,' p. 86, as the Turrubul (Brisbane) term for *work*, probably cognate with *yugari*, *make*, same dialect, and *yengga*, *make*, Kabi dialect, Queensland. It is used primarily for *doing work of any kind*, and only by English modification (due to "hack") for *cut*. The spelling *yacker* is to be avoided, as the final *r* is not heard in the native pronunciation.]

AND gives '**yakka** also **yacca**, **yacka**, **yacker**, **yakker** 'Work; strenuous labour; esp. in the phr. hard yakka.' (1888).
This term is Australian.

Yahoo: *slang* a lout: an ungainly, boisterous, and ignorant man. Almost synonymous with 'yokel.' 'Country yahoos' is a phrase often applied to the more uncouth and unmannerly section of bushmen.

OED gives '**yahoo** a person lacking cultivation or sensibility, a philistine; a lout, a hooligan.' (1726).
This term is not Australian.

Yellow Agony: *journalese* the Chinese element of the Australian population. 'The Yellow Agony is severely felt at Texas on the Dumaresq (Queensland) Result, the Chows swamped etc.' Bulletin, 30.10.97.

AND gives '**yellow 3**. [Used elsewhere but of local significance.] Having a yellowish complexion or skin, esp. in the collocations **yellow agony**, the Chinese in Australia; a member of the community; also *attrib.*; **peril**, immigration from Asian countries to Australia; the Asiatic peoples collectively; an Asiatic person.' (1879).
This term is Australian.

Yellow belly: *Aust* applied to the politico-religious sect known as Orangemen: an epithet used by the Catholics of the Irish persuasion, back to whom comes the slur 'Green-guts.'

OED gives '**yellow-belly 3**. (See *quots.*) *derog.*'

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-belly*, a name given..occasionally to half-castes, &c.

F&H gives '**YELLOW-BELLY**, *subs.* (provincial).—1. A Lincolnshire fen-man. 2. (American).—a half caste: also YELLOW-BOY (*q.v.*) or YELLOW-GIRL. 3. (American).—a dutchman.'

This term is not Australian.

Yellow Dog: Dr. O. W. Holmes in 'Elsie Venner' has written an amusing comment on the fact that in the New England States a yellow dog is a synonym for all that is contemptible.

OED gives '**yellow dog 2. fig. a**. A person or thing of no account or of a low type.' (1881).

This term is not Australian.

Yellow man: *Australian journalese* Chinamen, on account of their colour. Japs are little brown men: Kanakas etc are black and tans: Tommy Tana.

OED gives '**yellow**, *a. and n.* **C.** Collocations and Combinations. **1.** Special collocations. **yellow-man**, (*b*) person with naturally yellowish skin or complexion (see *A. 1d*);'

OED gives '**yellow**, *a. and n.* **A. adj. 1. d.** Having a naturally yellowish skin or complexion: applied chiefly (often somewhat depreciatorily) to persons of Asiatic, esp. Oriental, origin, but also in the *U.S.* to persons of mixed white and Black origin and (freq. as *yaller*) to light-skinned Blacks.

In modern use also *transf.* in **yellow peril** and similar phrases, denoting a supposed danger that the Asiatic peoples will overwhelm the white, or overrun the world.' (1787).

This term is not Australian.

Yellow pup: B&L give American for Dutchmen, so called from yellow belly, a frog.

In Australia, Orangemen are the worshippers of a dead Dutchman.

[B&L's entry is under **yellow belly**.]

There is some evidence for this term in ANDC's files:

Yellow-Pupism from 5.10.1905 *Bulletin*

I have found a Fatman's ideal worker. He is working on a Vic. Western District station for 12s. a week ... He believes in witches, and suffers from corns, Freetrade views on Yellow-Pupism.

The yellow pup from *The yellow pup of Sectarianism* 5.4.1891 *Truth* (Sydney)

Who at every election is sent to drag out the yellow pup? Surely the person who owes his existence to sectarianism is not now going to put his foot on it!

This term appears to have had limited use in Australia.

Yids, Yiddishers: common nickname for the Jewish race.

OED gives '**Yiddisher**, *n.* and *a.* **A.** *n.* A Jew. Also *transf.* (cf. **JEW** *n.* 2).' (1859).

slang.

OED gives '**Yid** *slang.* A (usu. offensive) name for a Jew.' (1874).

These terms are not Australian.

Yoke up: get married. Synonymous with American hitched, nautical spliced. From yoking up bullocks, i.e. coupling them up in pairs for draught work.

AND gives '**yoke** *v.* [Elsewhere constr, without *up*.] *trans.* With **up**: to put a yolk on (draught animals).' (1848).

This sense is Australian.

OED gives '**yoke up** **7a.** to join link, couple, connect, associate. 1205. **7b.** with reference to marriage.' (1604).

This sense is not Australian.

S&O'B's origin of the term **yoke up**, in the sense of matrimony, is incorrect. *OED*'s entry demonstrates that this sense was used well before the Australian sense of 'yoking up bullocks'.

This term is not Australian.

Z

Zack: *slang* sixpence.

AND gives '**zac** Also **sac, zack**. [Prob. f. Scot. dial. *saxpence*.] 1. A sixpence.' (1898).

This term is Australian.